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Japan

Reporter Describes Current Situation in Baghdad

OW0702063891 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] NHK reporter Hideo Yanagisawa, who has been collecting news in Iraq, has reported that the multinational forces are continuing to launch heavy bombing raids on Baghdad, the capital city, and that water and electric supplies to central Baghdad have been almost cut off.

Yanagisawa's report, dated 5 February, was first censored by the Iraqi Government, and then delivered to Amman, Jordan, by land on the evening of 6 February.

According to the report, the multinational forces' air raids on Baghdad and the suburban areas have continued daily during the past few days, but only at night. In response to air attacks, the Iraqi side has opened fire with antiaircraft weapons, and black smoke has been seen in the air every day from five or six locations in the city.

Long lines of autos are seen on the streets, waiting for distribution of gasoline or other fuels at gas stations. At the Al-Rashid Hotel, a downtown hotel where Yanagisawa is staying, the daily water supply is limited to a 30-minute period beginning at 1700, and electricity has been cut off. The situation is getting worse and worse, day by day.

However, the report says that the people are still offering their support for President Husayn by calling out "Saddam, Saddam," all the time.

Reporter Yanagisawa has thus reported the current situation in Baghdad.

Official Asks for Aid in Evacuating Gulf Refugees

OW0602190591 Tokyo KYODO in English 1444 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 6 KYODO—An adviser for the International Organization for Migration [IOM] urged the Japanese Government Wednesday to dispatch a flight—either civilian or Self-Defense Force [SDF]—to evacuate refugees from the war-torn Persian Gulf.

In an interview with KYODO NEWS SERVICE at a Tokyo hotel, Thomas W. Lamb of the IOM, however, thought an SDF flight might be more appropriate since a civilian flight would require a considerable financial outlay because of insurance and personnel arrangements.

Lamb said the IOM has sent letters to a number of governments requesting their assistance in evacuating refugees fleeing Iraq and Kuwait in the wake of a 24-hour bombardment to expel the Iraqis from their oil-rich neighbor.

The IOM adviser said he welcomed the efforts of one Japanese citizens' group that chartered a Royal Jordanian Airline Boeing 727 to fly refugees from Amman to Cairo. The next problem would be completing the procedures for the evacuation since the flight was working on a fixed schedule, Lamb said.

Lamb refuted speculation that SDF flights might be subject to terrorist attacks if they joined in the evacuation effort, saying that all of the military flights from other nations have, thus far, operated without incident.

Charter Evacuates Yemeni From Jordan

OW0702041691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0331 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 7 KYODO—A Royal Jordanian jetliner chartered by a Japanese civic group arrived in Cairo from Jordan on Wednesday, carrying 143 Yemeni war evacuees, according to a report that reached the Tokyo office of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) on Thursday.

The flight was the first chartered by a Japanese nongovernmental group in an attempt to prevent the planned overseas dispatch of Japan's Air Self-Defense Force (ASDF) aircraft to transport war evacuees. The 40,000 dollar cost of the flight was paid by donations from about 100 Japanese citizens.

The Japanese Government plans to send ASDF transport planes and personnel to help airlift Persian Gulf war refugees from Amman and Cairo as part of Japan's contributions to the allied war effort. Critics, however, say the plan violates Article 9 of the Japanese Constitution, which bans the use of force as a means of settling international disputes.

Some Japanese civic groups opposing the dispatch of ASDF planes to the Middle East have launched fund-raising campaigns to charter civilian aircraft to carry the war evacuees.

Government To Reduce Gulf Aid Tax Increases

OW0602162591 Tokyo KYODO in English 1542 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 6 KYODO—In a compromise with the middle-of-the road opposition party Komeito, the government plans to slash the size of tax increases set for aid to U.S.-led forces fighting Iraq, government sources said Wednesday.

The government earlier announced plans to raise petroleum, cigarette, and corporate taxes as temporary ways to fund its additional 9 billion dollar aid package for the Gulf forces allied against Iraq. The sources said the government has come close to scaling down the initial fund-raising scheme with a decrease of some 30 billion yen in corporate taxes.

The move apparently came in response to strong demands from Komeito, which has been pressing for the curtailing of government expenditures to hold down the planned tax increases.

Komeito, backed by the Buddhist Soka Gakkai religious organization, has been pushing the case to help lighten the tax burdens on small and medium-size companies.

The sources said the government and ruling Liberal Democratic Party want the reduction in corporate taxes in order to help them win support from Komeito to pass the tax increase package in the deeply divided Diet, where Komeito has a casting vote on the issue.

Komeito has expressed support for Japan's contribution to the multinational forces, but says it must not be funded fully by new taxes.

Opposition Criticizes Gulf Medical Aid Plan

OW0602162491 Tokyo KYODO in English 1556 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 6 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu's much-touted plan of last year to send medical assistance to the Persian Gulf was under fire from opposition members Wednesday as a series of embarrassing and costly blunders.

Kaifu had said sending 100 doctors and 20 ambulances to the Gulf was a demonstration of Japan's determination to participate in resolving the crisis. But he was put on the defensive Wednesday as opposition parliamentarians pointed to the plan's failures so far, accusing the government of squandering funds and breaking its promises to the international community.

Yanosuke Narazaki of the United Social Democratic Party reminded the government that 12 ambulances sent to Saudi Arabia in November had never left the parking lot because they were right-hand drive vehicles—Saudis use left-hand drive vehicles—and were equipped with the wrong type of engine for local fuel. The remaining eight ambulances were not sent to the Gulf because of the problems. "These cost 9,580,000 yen each... This is a waste of people's tax money," Narazaki said to the House of Representatives Budget Committee.

Makoto Watanabe, director general of the Foreign Ministry's Middle Eastern and African Affairs Bureau, said he regrets the problem has not been resolved, but the government is still negotiating with the Saudis, in hope the vehicles could be put to use.

Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama, objecting to the charge of government waste, said he had personally put a stop to a program to send medical teams to Saudi Arabia, the former centerpiece of Japan's pledge to send personnel to the Gulf.

The dispatch of doctors was thought to be one of the few routes for Japanese to join in the Gulf effort under the restrictions of the country's war-renouncing Constitution. But the project was derailed after the two countries were unable to resolve their differences over how long the doctors would stay in Saudi Arabia, and what useful services they could provide. The Saudis had wanted the teams to stay put for at least six months, said a Foreign Ministry official, "But this was not possible because they had to return to their jobs in Japan."

Japanese medical personnel were also reluctant to get involved in a war. Polls show half of the Japanese believe the war should not have been started. "I placed a call to (Riyadh) myself to investigate, and then canceled the 2.2 billion yen budget because it would be a waste to continue the program," Nakayama said. However, the government has already spent 100 million yen to send two survey teams to Saudi Arabia.

Nakayama told the committee the government has since held meetings with over 20 groups of doctors, and concluded it would be feasible to send a medical team to treat refugees outside the war zone. But there's a catch—there are not enough nurses.

Takashi Yonezawa, secretary general of the Democratic Socialist Party, said he hopes the plan will be carried out because Japan has staked its reputation on it. "We made an international promise," he said.

Still, the Foreign Ministry is optimistic the plan will come to fruition before too long—defined by one official as a month or so. The official, who declined to be identified, rejected the suggestion that the medical assistance project was a dud. "It is just taking time," he said.

SDP's Doi Calls For Immediate Gulf Cease-Fire

OW0602163491 Tokyo KYODO in English 1451 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 6 KYODO—Social Democratic Party (SDP) Chairwoman Takako Doi led an antiwar rally with 7,000 participants on Wednesday at a park in Tokyo and called for an immediate ceasefire in the Persian Gulf war.

The SDP, Japan's largest opposition party, sponsored the rally with an affiliate, the Sohyo Center, at Hibiya Park in central Tokyo. "We cannot stop the war if we keep silent," said Doi, who warned that Japan's 9 billion dollar aid package for U.S.-led Allied forces in the Gulf could lead to the nation becoming embroiled in the hostilities.

Doi proposed that the money be used for nonmilitary purposes such as reconstruction of Middle East nations after the war ends and protection of the global environment. Doi also touched on the dispatch of Self-Defense Force [SDF] planes to the Gulf area to transport Asian refugees to their home countries, and argued that the government is violating the nation's parliamentary democracy in deciding on the dispatch. "Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and his ruling Liberal Democratic Party should be blamed for their irresponsibility on the matter," she said.

Opposition parties are against the planned dispatch of SDF planes, saying it runs counter to a constitutional ban.

The protesters, including members of civic groups and labor unions, demonstrated in the streets after the rally.

Tokyo Drawing From Private-Sector Oil Reserves

OW0702113091 Tokyo KYODO in English 1055 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 7 KYODO—In an effort to abide by an International Energy Agency (IEA) decision to make more oil available to the market, Japan has begun drawing from its private-sector reserves, industry sources said Thursday.

Each of Japanese oil companies is aiming to draw reserves equal to four days of supplies by the end of the month. The firms will also refrain from buying crude oil on the spot market and put off until March the oil purchases they had planned for February, in an attempt to curb their overall oil imports. This will be the first time the companies will draw down their reserves since April 1979, during the second oil crisis.

Because most Saudi Arabian oilfields and facilities have not been damaged by the Persian Gulf war, there are sufficient supplies of crude oil. But the industry felt the need to release reserves to keep its policy in step with the international community, the sources said.

On January 28, the governing board of the 21-nation IEA decided the member nations should release 2.5 million barrels of crude oil a day to the market from their reserves to ease fears of an oil shortage in the wake of the outbreak of the Gulf War.

Petroleum firms will shave off an average of four days in supplies from their reserves. For example, Idemitsu Kosan Co., which normally has 90 days of supplies as reserves, will lower its reserves to 86 days by the end of February. Cosmo Oil Co. will cut down its 84 days of supplies to 80 days.

The firms can reduce reserves by either cutting back on their imports of crude oil or stepping up production of petroleum products by increasing the amount of crude oil they refine. They chose not to increase production of petroleum products since they were afraid that it could have a detrimental effect on the market.

"To step up production when sales are down due to the warmer-than-usual winter would just aggravate the market," said an Idemitsu Kosan official.

Idemitsu Kosan will forgo its plans to buy crude oil on the spot market, which accounts for 20 percent of all imported crude oil.

Cosmo Oil will defer buying oil that it had hoped to purchase in February until March. "There's really no need to draw down reserves since it seems as though we have an excess of supplies," said a Cosmo Oil official. "But we felt that international coordination was important," he said.

Kaifu Calls on USSR To Return Northern Islands

OW0702070691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0645 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 7 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu on Thursday called on Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev to make a "courageous decision" when he visits Japan in April to return four Soviet-occupied island territories off Japan's northernmost main island of Hokkaido.

"I strongly call upon President Gorbachev to exert maximum efforts and make a courageous decision so that his visit will facilitate a breakthrough in resolving the northern territories problem and in building a new Japan-Soviet relationship," Kaifu said.

Kaifu made the call in remarks delivered before an annual public rally held to demand the return of the contested islands at the Kudan Kaikan Hall in central Tokyo. The rally coincided with "Northern Territories Day," which was designated by the government in 1980 as part of a "public awareness" campaign intended to garner grassroots support for the government's position in diplomatic negotiations with Moscow.

Kaifu lamented that despite an enhancement of dialogue and exchanges between the two countries, there has been no "substantial change" in the Soviet stance on the territorial issue. He said the only way to realize a full-fledged improvement of bilateral relations is for the Soviet Union to return the islands, thus removing the major obstacle to concluding a peace treaty.

Amid widespread speculation that Moscow may be contemplating the transfer of Shikotan Island and the Habomai Islets, the smallest of the four territories claimed by Japan, Kaifu reiterated Japan's demand that all four territories, including Kunashiri and Etorofu islands, be returned together.

Moscow has firmly stated in recent bilateral negotiations that the question of Soviet sovereignty over the islands seized from Japan at the end of World War II is legally and historically irrefutable. But in a since-repudiated 1956 Japan-Soviet joint declaration, the Soviets agreed to return Shikotan and the Habomais to Japan upon conclusion of a peace treaty "to meet Japanese wishes and considering the interests of Japan."

Kaifu linked a resolution of the territorial issue to the task of building a "new international order" in the Asia-Pacific region, saying improved Japan-Soviet relations are an essential component of the new order.

The rally was attended by an estimated 1,500 people, mostly members of irredentist organizations.

Security was tight around the hall, as right-wing nationalists in vans with mounted loudspeakers circled the vicinity, calling for the "return" of not only the four territories, but all islands in the Kuril Archipelago as far north as the Kamchatka Peninsula.

KDD To Improve Communications for Gorbachev Trip

OW0602123191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1210 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 6 KYODO—KDD said Wednesday it has agreed with the Soviet Union's Post and Telecommunications Ministry to bolster a communications link between Tokyo and Moscow in preparation for a visit to Japan by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev in April.

Japan's leading international telecommunications company said the agreement calls for both sides to increase telephone circuits between the two capitals and facilitate smooth transmission of television programs from Tokyo to Moscow.

A large number of Soviet and foreign journalists are expected to cover Gorbachev's activities in Tokyo, requiring KDD to increase communications circuits available to them.

KDD officials said the number of telecommunications circuits between Tokyo and Moscow and between Tokyo and Vladivostok will be increased, while a new communications link between Tokyo and Leningrad will be established.

New high-speed digital service will also be available between Japan and the Soviet Union during Gorbachev's visit, the company said.

Report on Interview With Soviet Economic Official

OW0602140691 Tokyo KYODO in English 1340 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 6 KYODO—The Soviet Union plans to introduce a single exchange rate for the ruble by the mid-1990s in a step toward making the Soviet currency convertible, a Soviet economic official said Wednesday.

Ivan Ivanov, deputy chairman of the State Committee for External Economic Relations, said that Moscow will soon abolish two of the four exchange rates currently set for the ruble and plans to unite the two other rates into a single one in the middle of the 1990s.

In an interview with KYODO NEWS SERVICE, Ivanov said a decision has already been made on scrapping the exchange rate for tourists and the one for statistics adopted by Gosbank, the Soviet central bank, because they are meaningless economically and could promote speculative transactions.

The two other rates—one for international commercial transactions, now at 1.8 rubles to the dollar, and the other determined by the market—will be replaced by a single rate by the mid-1990s, he said.

Subject to these procedures, Ivanov said, the Soviet Union would make the ruble convertible depending on developments in domestic economic reforms. Unlike most countries' currencies, the ruble's exchange rate is set artificially by the Soviet Government, and rubles are not therefore convertible at present.

On other topics, Ivanov acknowledged that Soviet foreign debts now stands at 34 billion rubles, including 400 million rubles owed to Japan, compared to the government-mandated limit of 40 billion rubles. But Ivanov said the Soviets will repay 9 billion rubles of the total external debt by tapping their foreign exchange reserves.

Accompanying Ivanov in the interview, Valeriy Chichkanov, vice minister in charge of external economic relations of the Russian Federation, said the Soviet Government and individual republics have agreed to allow Soviet control over gold, diamonds, and precious metals.

Under the agreement, Chichkanov said, 10 other items such as oil, coal, and lumber, will be distributed by the Soviet Government to individual republics.

On property ownership with regard to foreign investment, Chichkanov said foreign investors will remain unable to purchase land, but added that land will be offered for foreign investment on a rental basis. Both Ivanov and Chichkanov are here to attend a meeting of Japanese and Soviet business leaders, which ended last week.

Ministry To Ease Curbs on Soviet Travel to Nemuro

OW0602135591 Tokyo KYODO in English 1305 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Kushiro, Hokkaido, Feb. 6 KYODO—The Japanese Foreign Ministry will ease the restrictions on Soviet citizens wishing to enter the City of Nemuro in southeastern Hokkaido, Nemuro municipal officials said.

The officials said the ministry conveyed its policy to Nemuro Mayor Kaiji Oya on his recent visit to Tokyo.

The ministry was quoted as telling the mayor that Soviet citizens, other than diplomats, coming from the Soviet Union will be allowed to enter Nemuro freely.

Soviet citizens have hitherto been severely restricted in entering the city, based on a principle of reciprocity between Japan and the Soviet Union.

The ministry's decision will be welcomed by Nemuro citizens because it should help promote economic exchanges between the city and the Soviet Union, the officials said.

Officials To Meet Cambodia's Hun Sen, Sihanouk

OW0602123791 Tokyo KYODO in English 1207 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 6 KYODO—Japan will dispatch two officials from its embassy in Bangkok for talks with Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen in Phnom Penh and resistance coalition leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk in Beijing, Foreign Ministry officials said Wednesday.

Officials said that Yukio Imagawa, a minister at the Japanese Embassy in Bangkok dealing with Cambodian affairs, will go to Phnom Penh in mid-February for talks with Hun Sen and other officials.

Tadashi Ikeda, also a minister at the embassy and Japan's charge d'affaires vis-a-vis Cambodia, will go to Beijing in late February for talks with Sihanouk.

Officials said Imagawa will be soliciting the views of the Phnom Penh government on a note issued by the United Nations last November concerning UN operations in Cambodia after a peace agreement is reached among the four warring parties. Imagawa is also expected to weigh the situation in Cambodia, including the withdrawal of Soviet and East European advisers, since he last visited there in August.

DPRK Party Delegation To Visit 20 Feb

OW0602133891 Tokyo KYODO in English 1254 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 6 KYODO—A delegation of the North Korean Workers Party (KWP) will arrive here on February 20 for an eight-day visit to Japan at the invitation of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and leading opposition Social Democratic Party (SDP), the LDP said Wednesday.

The LDP said it dispatched its invitation the same day to the North Korean party to visit Japan. The KWP will send a 36-member delegation, led by Secretary Kim Yong-sun, to Japan. The visit had been postponed from last December when both Japanese political parties were embroiled in a heated debate over the failed bill to send Japanese personnel to the Persian Gulf.

The KWP delegation visit will be the first at the invitation of the LDP and reciprocates a visit last September by an LDP delegation, led by former Deputy Prime Minister Shin Kanemaru, to North Korea.

While in Pyongyang, the LDP and Japan Socialist Party (the SDP's former name) delegation issued a tripartite statement with the KWP calling for normalized relations between Tokyo and Pyongyang, for Japanese reparations for its colonial rule of the Korean peninsula, and for "postwar damages." The three parties also agreed that Kim and a KWP delegation would pay a visit to Japan later in the year.

Debate in the Diet over the United Nations Peace Cooperation Bill left the LDP and SDP at odds and prevented the two parties from coordinating their invitations to the KWP.

Kim and other members of the KWP delegation will be the guests of the LDP February 20-24 and of the SDP February 25-27. They will likely meet with officials from both parties, including LDP Secretary General Ichiro Ozawa and SDP Chairwoman Takako Doi, and will also visit western Japan.

Parties To Sponsor Tokyo Gubernatorial Candidate

OW0702083591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0725 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 7 KYODO—Hisanori Isomura, a television journalist with the Japan Broadcasting Corporation (NHK), won backing Thursday in the Tokyo governor's race from the Komeito and Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) and appeared likely to win support from the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) as well later in the day.

The chairmen of the Komeito and DSP, Koshiro Ishida and Keigo Ouchi, agreed to field Isomura as their joint candidate. The opposition party leaders planned to meet with LDP Secretary General Ichiro Ozawa later Thursday to formalize the three parties' support for Isomura. Isomura, 61, has not officially declared his candidacy, but responded positively Wednesday to Ouchi's request that he run. The three parties had endorsed incumbent Governor Shunichi Suzuki, 80, in the past three elections, but have decided at the national level to drop him because of his age. The Tokyo chapters of the LDP and DSP, however, are still supporting Suzuki, who declared Tuesday that he will seek a fourth term in the April election.

Meanwhile, Antonio Inoki, 47, the lone House of Councilors member representing the Sports and Peace Party, declared his candidacy on Thursday. Inoki, a pro wrestler-turned politician, led a mission to Baghdad in December that resulted in the release of 36 Japanese hostages.

The Komeito-DSP agreement to back Isomura followed DSP Chairman Ouchi's meeting with the popular television commentator on Wednesday. Ouchi told Ishida that Isomura might agree to run, depending on strong backing from the three parties, and asked for Komeito's endorsement. Ishida agreed to back Isomura.

To firm up the pro-Isomura coalition, Ouchi and Ishida were to meet Prime Minister and LDP President Toshiki Kaifu on Thursday evening. Isomura might announce his candidacy as early as Thursday night, sources said. After the meeting, Ouchi said he will also appeal to the top opposition Social Democratic Party (SDP), formerly the Japan Socialist Party, to support Isomura.

The SDP on Thursday asked the minor opposition United Social Democratic Party (Shaminren) to have its member Naoto Kan run in the election, but the USDP rejected the request.

North Korea

Kim Il-song Receives Reunification Support Letters

SK0702043891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0421 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Spelling of all non-Korean names as received]

[Text] Pyongyang February 7 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song received solidarity letters supporting the new proposal for national reunification advanced by him in his New Year address from Ana Patricia Elbir, president of the Nicaraguan Council for Friendship, Solidarity and Peace; Hibeun John Shoniwa, chairman of the Veterans' Committee of the Zimbabwe National Liberation War; Raul Luna Balon, chairman of the Peruvian Group for the Study of the Literary and Art Idea of Comrade Kim Chong-il; and Ahmad Ahmad al-Amawi, chairman of the Egyptian General Federation of Trade Unions.

In the letters they stressed that the new proposal for national reunification advanced by the great leader President Kim Il-song in his new year address is the most just and reasonable one to achieve the reunification of Korea independently and peacefully at an early date.

Expressing full support to the proposal for founding the democratic confederal republic of Koryo put forward by President Kim Il-song, they said that a political consultative conference for national reunification to decide on the correct way of national reunification should be convened at an early date between the North and the South.

Noting that the Korean question should be solved by the Korean people themselves without any outside interference, they strongly demanded that the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons be withdrawn at once from South Korea.

U.S., No Tae-u Accused of 'Sinister' Intentions

SK0702104891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1000 GMT 7 Feb 91

["What Is Heightening of Tension For?"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang February 7 (KCNA)—The moves of the U.S. imperialists and the No Tae-u ruling group in South Korea to heighten tension can never be tolerated in view of the democratization of South Korean society, peace and reunification of the Korean peninsula and peace and security of the world, says NODONG SINMUN in a by-lined article today. Sinister political and military intention of the U.S. imperialists and the No ruling group underlie their deliberate increase of tension on the Korean peninsula, the article says, and continues: They, first of all, pursue a reactionary purpose of suppressing the mounting movement of the South Korean people for independence, democracy and reunification, saving the serious domestic crisis and, further, propping up the colonial military fascist rule. There are signs that the South Korean students and people will intensify the anti-U.S., anti-"government" struggle in spring, the traditional period of struggle. The situation has driven the No group into uneasiness and nervousness with the approach of the "local assembly elections" which will be the first test for the long-term office scheme. Under these circumstances, the No group, availing itself of the Gulf war, intends to strengthen the ramshackle anti-communist system, bridge over the present ruling crisis and lay a foundation for a long-term office by means of suppressing and stifling the forces for reunification and democracy. The moves of the U.S. imperialists and the No ruling group to deliberately key up tension were motivated by the criminal intention to prevent dialogue for reunification and perpetuate the division of the country by leading North-South relations to confrontation and war. We have attached priority to the peace problems of the country including the removal of military confrontation between the North and the South and made sincere efforts to carry them into practice. This year, we, with a view to achieving peace on the Korean peninsula and creating peaceful preconditions for national reunification as quickly as possible, urged again the South Korean authorities to respond to the adoption of a nonaggression declaration without delay and discontinue the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise. We demanded that the United States renounce the dangerous policy of war based on the position of strength, sign a peace agreement with the DPRK and withdraw its troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea at an early date. Nevertheless, no sooner had the Gulf war broke out than the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities proclaimed an "emergency wartime system" and started large-scale military manoeuvres against the North, raising outcries over "threat from the North". This is a criminal act to foil North-South dialogue and bar a peaceful reunification. Their moves to hot up tension is an immediate product of their criminal attempt to unleash another war on the Korean peninsula. Herein lies the greater danger of the moves. At a time when the balance of forces has been destroyed in the international relations, the U.S. imperialists intend to ignite a war in the Far East as they did in the Gulf region and expand the sphere of their domination.

Indian Communist Party Denounces Team Spirit

SK0702045391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0425 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 7 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) published a statement on January 30 denouncing the "Team Spirit 91" joint military exercises of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities.

The joint military exercises are aimed at bringing the situation of the Korean peninsula to the extreme pitch of strain and perpetuating the division of Korea, the statement said, and continued:

By staging the "Team Spirit 91," the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities ignore the will of the entire Korean people for national reunification and are laying big hurdles in the way of the North-South high-level talks which were arranged with much efforts. The exercises are one more move to gratify the unsatiable aggressive desire of the U.S. imperialists, the statement said.

Yun Ki-pok Attends Anniversary of Chondoist Party

SK0702105491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1009 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 7 (KCNA)—A national meeting marking the 45th founding anniversary of the Chondoist Chongu Party was held here today. Present at the meeting were Yun Ki-pok, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, and other officials concerned and members of the Chondoist Chongu Party in Pyongyang. Chong Sin-hyok, chairman of the Central Committee of the Chondoist Chongu Party, delivered a report at the meeting. The reporter recalled that the Chondoist Chongu Party was founded on February 8, 1946, with a programme and a policy of building a democratic, sovereign and independent state. Over the past 45 years the Chondoist Chongu Party has made its due contribution to the country and the people in the struggle for the building of a new country and new society, cooperating with the Workers' Party of Korea and other political parties and public organisations in the northern half of Korea, as a democratic political party of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland, upholding the respected leader President Kim Il-song's wise line of united front, he stated. He declared that his party would carry to accomplishment the idea of building an earthly paradise for all the people, holding respected President Kim Il-song and dear Mr. Kim Chong-il in high esteem as the great leaders of the nation. He further said: The Chondoist Chongu Party members and Chondoists are confronted with an important task to give fuller play to the superiority of our socialism and accomplish the cause of national reunification in a few years to come. For guaranteeing peace on the Korean peninsula and creating peaceful conditions for national reunification, a nonaggression declaration must be adopted between the North and South without delay and the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean ruling group should stop the "Team Spirit 91" joint military exercises forthwith. The South Korean ruling group is harshly repressing the people who visited the North and pro-reunification patriotic forces, turning its back on our just reunification proposal. This proves that it does not have the least will for reunification. The Chondoist Chongu Party members and Chondoists should make every possible effort to make the political consultative conference for national reunification a success, the reporter said, and called for making this year a year of detente and peace, a year of reconciliation and unity, a historic year of opening a new phase in national reunification.

Yi Chong-ok Attends Agricultural Union Meeting

SK3001122391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1124 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 30 (KCNA)—A national meeting marking the 45th founding anniversary of the Union of Agricultural Working People of Korea (UAWPK) was held here today.

Attending it together with members of the Union of Agricultural Working People were Yi Chong-ok, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-president, and officials concerned.

Pak Su-tong, chairman of the Central Committee of the UAWPK, made a report.

He recalled that the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song defined peasantry as the main force of revolution as well as the working class and awakened and organized them, thereby wisely organizing and leading the work of building the internal revolutionary forces.

He quoted the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song as saying:

"It is vital that we heighten the class awareness of the peasant masses and educate them in patriotism and collectivism, so that they will be the main force in the construction of a new homeland, with the working class. To do this we must form a peasants' union and firmly unite all of them within it."

He said: After founding the Union of Peasants of North Korea on January 31, 1946, the great leader indicated tasks facing the union in the period of the democratic revolution, the period of the Fatherland Liberation War, the period of the postwar rehabilitation and construction and the period of socialist construction and has wisely led it to successfully fulfill them.

With a scientific penetration into the changed conditions of our peasants who became socialist working people and into the matured demand of the developing peasant movement in our country, he took a step of strengthening and developing the Union of Peasants into the Union of Agricultural Working People.

The valuable exploits performed by the great leader in building the chuche-based Union of Agricultural Working People and in resolving the rural questionaire now being successfully carried forward and developed under the guidance of dear Comrade Kim Chong- il. [sentence as received]

With his energetic ideological and theoretical activities, he clearly expounded the character and tasks of the UAWP, the principles of building the union and of its activities, major tasks facing the union and the ways of carrying them out.

Referring to the tasks facing the union, the reporter stressed the need to move firmly build the union into a chuche-type revolutionary organization boundlessly faithful to the guidance of the party and the leader and thoroughly establish the revolutionary work system and work style within the union whereby to safeguard and carry through the party's line and policies to the end.

The agricultural working people, he said, should perfect comprehensive mechanization and widespread use of chemicals in the rural economy and effect a fresh upsurge in agricultural production through the energetic rural technical revolution in compliance with the practical requirements of the socialist rural construction, thereby bringing the advantages of our socialist rural economic system into full play.

All the agricultural working people should make energetic efforts to strengthen international solidarity for our revolution and make the whole world independent in firm unity with the world's revolutionary peasants in accordance with the idea of independence, peace and friendship, the reporter stressed.

North Hamgyong Workers Hold Kim Il-song Rally

SK0702070491 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1300 GMT 4 Feb 91

[Text] A rally of workers to thoroughly implement the teachings recently given by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song was held in the Chongjin Stadium in North Hamgyong Province on the afternoon of 4 February.

Comrade Kang Song-san, member of the Political Bureau of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee, who is also the responsible secretary of the North Hamgyong Provincial Party Committee and chairman of the North Hamgyong Provincial People's Committee; responsible functionaries of local parties, administration and economic organizations, and workers' organizations; as well as 50,000 workers of the province attended the rally.

Comrade Kang Song-san made a speech at the rally.

[Begin Kang recording] The great leader, who is wisely leading us by always directing deep attention to the works of our North Hamgyong Province, again taught that since North Hamgyong Province is playing an important role in the development of the nation's economy, its responsibility is great and thus clearly showed the direction and measures for rapidly developing various sectors of national economy within the province.

The great leader taught that we should normalize steel production at a high level by giving full play to the production capacity of Kim Chaek Steel Complex which is playing a great role in the nation's steel production, and that we should increase production capacity by further modernizing the existing metallurgical facilities. Stressing that plants and complexes should strive to be self-supporting, the great leader taught that we should fully operate mining equipment including excavators and [word indistinct] by producing and ensuring mining equipment parts ourselves.

The great leader elucidated the task for further increasing electric power production capacities by fully operating existing thermal power stations.

The great leader also taught that we should concentrate our efforts on coal production and decisively increase its production quantities so that the rapidly increasing demand for coal required in thermal power stations, steel and iron plants, and chemical plants be properly met. Thus, he elucidated impending tasks and (?prospective) tasks for coal industry sector.

The teachings recently given by the great leader are a programmatic guideline which illuminates the path of developing national economy within the province onto a new higher stage and of epochally enhancing the people's living standard. His teachings are an encouraging banner to more vigorously inspire our party members and workers to struggle to accomplish this year's national economic plans and the Third Seven-Year Plan ahead of schedule. [end recording]

The speaker pointed out that plants and enterprises within the province should vigorously wage the struggle to normalize the production at a high level by effectively utilizing the existing production potentials.

Stressing that the tasks facing the province are enormous, he said that all party members and workers should courageously overcome difficulties by actively following and learning from lofty revolutionary spirit demonstrated during the Fatherland Liberation War and postwar days by the 10 party members in Nakwon. He urged all party members and workers to constantly create miracles and exploits by heroically living and struggling.

Discussions were held at the rally. Hong Sok-hyong, responsible secretary of party Committee of the Kim Chaek Steel Complex, participated first. He stressed that the teaching recently given by the great leader to North Hamgyong Province is a militant program which should be firmly adhered to in economic works of the province and is an encouraging banner which is vigorously inspiring all party members and workers to new exploits. He continued:

[Begin Hong recording] With the spirit of absoluteness and unconditionality, party members and workers of Kim Chaek Steel Complex will thoroughly implement the teachings given by the great leader by cherishing boundless loyalty to the fatherly leader and dear comrade leader.

First of all, we will see to it that party members and workers establish the strong revolutionary trait of thoroughly accomplishing the great leader's teachings in a timely manner, and to the finish regard them as a supreme order.

With the revolutionary spirit for self-reliance and arduous struggle, we will wage the technological innovations movement as a mass movement and will produce more [word indistinct] by discovering and mobilizing internal reserves to the maximum. We have saved 180,000 (?tons) of fuel and produced 100,000 more tons of pig iron than last year by our blast furnace workshop alone, upholding the decisions of the 17th Plenary Meeting of the Sixth Party Central Committee. Thus, we pleased the dear comrade leader.

With such a revolutionary trait of struggle, we will more actively push for construction of facilities of the second steel workshop for production of cool steel plate. At the same time, we will see to it that all production masses fulfill their responsibility and rule as the masters of production by combining the party's guidance over economic management, administrative and economic guidance, and technological guidance according to the demand of the Taean work system.

We, the commanding members of steel production, will organize and carry out works in a revolutionary manner by giving full play to the lofty revolutionary spirit, the party spirit, and the working class spirit.

At the same time, by vigorously waging the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—we will ensure that party members and workers think and work in accordance with the demand of chuche so that constant upsurge is effected in steel production.

If all party members and workers in the (?province) fight with such thorough loyalty as that displayed by anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters—who fought by dedicating their whole lives to defending the great leader—and by our Kim Chaek working class—which produced 270,000 tons of steel with 190,000-ton production capacity during the period of great Chollima upsurge—we can certainly accomplish enormous tasks.

Just as the commanders of the anti-Japanese armed struggle, I will lead the steel production struggle and vigorously inspire the party members and workers. Thus, I firmly resolve that I will make a report of loyalty to the fatherly leader and dear comrade leader by brilliantly implementing the militant tasks assigned by the great leader. [end recording]

Next, Yi Yun-sop, director of General Bureau of Northern District Coal Industry, participated in the discussion. He said that party members and mining workers under the General Bureau are overflowing with revolutionary passion to fulfill their glorious missions, assigned by time and history, by effecting a new turning point in the socialist economic construction and by upholding the teachings given recently by the great leader. He continued:

[Begin Yi recording] By vigorously pushing for high-speed tunneling in all mines, we will continue our struggle by giving priority to the first three-year workload of basic tunneling and to the six-month workload of (?subsequent) tunneling.

By directing our strength to mechanization of (?mining equipment), we will increase the monthly production of coal by 1.3 times over that of the present. At the same time, by consolidating the tunnel according to rock type, we will increase the transport capacity of the tunnel. While directing our strength to expanding the existing production capacities in mines, we will actively push for operation of new mines. By vigorously waging the struggle to increase production of low calorie coal, we will intensively supply coal to the new thermal power stations in a timely manner.

Our tasks are enormous yet glorious. However, as long as there is the wise leadership of the great leader and dear comrade leader, and the firm will of our mine workers to carry out what the party decides, there will not be any stronghold which we cannot occupy. The question depends on what attitude and position our functionaries in mines will take in upholding the great leader and dear comrade leader, and how loyally they will uphold the party's leadership.

We will establish a firm revolutionary outlook on the leader and thoroughly carry out the three revolutions—ideological, technological and cultural—following the banner of the chuche idea. We will more thoroughly implement the great Taean work system.

I firmly resolved to make a statement of loyalty to the fatherly leader and dear comrade leader by fulfilling this year's coal production goal assigned to the province. [end recording]

At the rally Yang Ki-tong, vice chairman of the Provincial Rural Economy Committee; Choe Ki-chong, manager of the construction complex for the No. 2 metallurgical plant; and Yun Tae-hae, responsible secretary of Chongjin municipal party and chairman of Chongjin Municipal People's Committee, participated in the discussions. They stressed that we should organize our works in a revolutionary and militant manner by properly organizing business management in compliance with the demand of the Taean work system and by demonstrating lofty revolutionary spirit, the party spirit, working class spirit and people-mindedness. We should vigorously lead the masses at the van of the advancing ranks. They expressed their firm conviction that only victory and honor are laid on the road we advance by following the wise leadership of the great leader and our party. They showed a firm resolution to register a great upsurge in production and construction by highly demonstrating mass heroism.

A message of resolution was adopted at the rally.

Editorial Views State of Agricultural Production

SK2601151091 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0006 GMT 21 Jan 91

[NODONG SINMUN 21 January editorial: "Let Us Bring About a New Turning Point in This Year's Agricultural Production"]

[Text] In his new year address, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song stated an important task in the struggle for the new year—to enhance the livelihood of the people. He clearly elucidated the direction and method in further quickly developing agriculture and light industry.

We must highly uphold the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's New Year address and continue to vigorously carry out the struggle to fulfill it. What is important here is to make efforts in this year's farming so that a new turning point can be achieved in producing the food grain crops.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: In this year's agricultural sector the soil's fertility of the cultivated land must be enhanced decisively according to the demand of the chuche farming method. We must absolutely achieve the goal in producing the food grain crops by doing farm work scientifically and technologically. We must develop in many ways the rural economy in accordance with the natural and geographical conditions.

From ancient times farming was called the foundation of the universe. Farm work must be carried out well and it must enhance the production of the food grain crops so that the people's problem of food can be solved smoothly. Also, the level of the people's material life can be enhanced endlessly.

Currently our people are enjoying a valuable, worthwhile, independent, and creative political life as well as a sound and rich material and cultural life under the most superior socialist system; we are living happily without any worries. This is a clear demonstration of the superiority of our country's socialism.

Our party, however, is not satisfied at this point and is continuing to struggle to enhance the people's material life. This year is the second year of the 1990's and the fifth year of the Third Seven-Year Plan. In this significant year, our party demands that we once again achieve rapid progress in agricultural production and enhance the people's lives one step further.

Achieving a new turning point in this year's agricultural production is a very worthwhile and honorable work, which is to realize our party's policy for the people. Here our party is struggling with all its might to ensure the interests and happiness of the popular masses by highly upholding the slogan of: Serving the people.

When a new and rapid progress is achieved again in this year's agricultural production, our people's revolutionary trait of vigorously moving forward by highly upholding the socialist banner in accordance with the wise leadership of the party and the leader can be further vigorously displayed. In addition, the imperialists' various nefarious antirepublic and antisocialist maneuvers can be smashed every step of the way.

Today we have all the conditions and possibilities of achieving rapid progress in agricultural production. We have the wise leadership of the party and the leader, the great socialist agricultural thesis, and a firm material and technological basis. If we firmly adhere to our party's policy that farming is supremely important and firmly fulfill this, another bumper crop can be achieved. We can brilliantly fulfill this year's production goal of food grain crops. All the party members and workers of the rural economy sector must highly uphold the party's policy, which is that farming is supremely important. They must further vigorously work to achieve this year's goal to produce the food grain crops.

Above all else, in order to bring about rapid progress in this year's agricultural production soil plowing must be continuously and vigorously done as a masses movement.

Based on our country's current agricultural production situation and the scientific insight of the cultivated land, late last year in various meetings and in on-the-spot guidance at the Ponghwa cooperative farm in Kangdong County, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song set a militant task of carrying out a masses movement in the soil plowing battle. By highly upholding the teachings of the great leader, all the nation's party members and workers have vigorously undertaken the struggle to fulfill it. Thus, in a short time they plowed a large area of soil in the cultivated land, especially in the corn fields.

In this new year as well, the party members and workers are continuing to expand the result of the plowing. They are waging a struggle, setting a high target of completing the plowing on all the corn fields by the time the farming season begins. Many units, including Sariwon and the Chongsan Cooperative Farm in Kangso District, have already completed the plowing of corn fields and are accelerating the preparations for the new year's farming. All the cooperative farms should follow this example and continue to wage the vigorous battle of plowing.

To do this they should mobilize all their potential and conduct organizational work effectively. All the cooperative farms and the relevant sectors and units of the people's economy should follow the slogan: Once the party decides, we will do it. They should continue to intensify the organizational work. In particular, the functionaries and agricultural workers of the cooperative farms should do their best to do the plowing with the high self-awareness that they are the very masters of agriculture.

At the same time, the relevant plants, enterprises, and organizations should effectively conduct the labor and organizational work to complete their plowing task ahead of schedule. They should ensure that plowing brings good results by laying cableways and small freight cars and by finding and mobilizing reserves. The office workers and other participants in Friday labor should actively participate in the plowing battle, and do it qualitatively and responsibly.

Good preparations for farming are an important guarantee for doing it scientifically and technologically. All the cooperative farms should concentrate their efforts on plowing and should carry out effective preparations for farming in general—such as the production and carriage of compost, the preparation of rice seedling beds, the levelling of soil, the making of bases for wind screens, and the preparation of farm machines and small farm tools. Only when we do this work well can we solidify the success of plowing, do the farming scientifically and technologically as demanded by the chuche agricultural method, reap a bumper crop this year again, and thoroughly demonstrate the justness of our party's agricultural policy and the great vitality of the chuche agricultural method.

All the cooperative farms should ensure that no delays occur in the work to be done before the farming season while concentrating on plowing. They should ensure that the farm machines, including tractors, are well maintained and that the water-pumping facilities are responsibly managed.

In his New Year address, the great leader, Comrade Kim Il-song, set the task of developing the rural economy in many ways in conformity with the natural and geographical conditions of our country. We should sow beans and vegetables as well as rice and corn, raise livestock, rear silkworms on mountains, and develop orchards. Thus we may further improve the people's food supply and rapidly increase the farmers' income.

The rural economic sector should correctly develop the plan for raising vegetables, industrial produce, livestock, and grain in conformity with the conditions of the geographical locations, and it should execute it thoroughly. In particular, it should massively plant white gourd melons, pumpkins, and amaranthuses to satisfactorily solve the problem of livestock feed so that we may supply more meat for the people.

The chuche agricultural method is the most advanced and scientific agricultural method which the great leader personally created while guiding the work of the rural economic sector for a long time. If we do the farming according to the demand of the chuche agricultural method, we can reap a good harvest safely under any disadvantageous natural climactic conditions. The rural economic sector should effectively conduct lecture meetings, workshops, and technology transmitting meetings for the functionaries and working people so that they may clearly learn the principles and demands of the chuche agricultural method and implement them unconditionally and thoroughly.

In particular, different kinds of plants must be arranged according to the characteristics of each type of land and the appropriate biological characteristics of the produce. We must establish a system to fertilize scientifically and to plant high-yield varieties of grain which are in abundant supply.

In order to do farm work well for this year, it is important to correctly sum up last year's farm work. Last year our country was continuously faced with adverse weather. The functionaries and workers of the rural economy sector, however, overcame this and struggled vigorously to do the farm work according to the demand of the chuche farming method. In this process, they underwent many experiences and learned lessons from it. These kinds of experiences and lessons must be correctly summed up so that greater results can be achieved in this year's farming.

The functionaries and workers of the rural economy sector must correctly sum up last year's farming experiences and lessons, and must establish a revolutionary measure to further carry out the farm work well for this year. Increasing the investment in the rural economy is an important condition in further strengthening its material and technological foundation and in endlessly increasing agricultural production.

The ministries of the related committees of the State Administration Council are solidifying the results achieved in the struggle to enhance the soil fertility of the cultivated land. Also, the ministries must continue to vigorously do the work to achieve comprehensive mechanization and scientific methodology in the rural economy. Therefore, facilities for producing fertilizers must be operated at full capacity so that various highly effective fertilizers can be produced according to our country's soil conditions and the biological characteristics of the farm produce. After doing so, the fertilizer must be sent to the farm areas.

Also, the production of agricultural machines such as tractors must be further vigorously pushed ahead. Farming equipment and materials such as oil, agricultural chemicals, and protection nets must be produced and supplied sufficiently.

At a time when the work to achieve an upsurge in this year's farming, such as in enhancing the soil's fertility and in accelerating preparations for farming, is being done vigorously, there is a demand to further enhance the role of the party organizations.

The party organizations at all levels and party functionaries must further deeply explain and inculcate into the masses the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's New Year address and the great leader's teaching of enhancing the soil's fertility. Also, they must continue to plan the political work as well as the work with the people so that their revolutionary enthusiasm can be aroused. The party functionaries must be an especially exemplary model in fulfilling soil plowing, making preparations for farming, and in the chuche farming method; they must move vigorously by being a vanguard in mobilizing the masses and being a true standard bearer. When this is achieved, the people of the whole nation can vigorously undertake fulfilling the party's policy that farming is supremely important and achieve a new and greater upsurge.

Let us all highly uphold the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's New Year address and move forward vigorously so that a new turning point can be achieved again in this year's farming. Let us brilliantly achieve the goal of producing the food grain crops that the party has presented.

Supplying Materials for Light Industry Stressed

SK0702100691 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0007 GMT 6 Feb 91

[NODONG SINMUN 6 February editorial: "Let Us Satisfactorily Produce and Supply Raw Materials and Processed Materials to the Light Industry Plants"]

[Text] One of the important tasks put before us at this time is to further satisfactorily produce and supply raw materials and processed materials to light industry plants by highly upholding the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's New Year address and thoroughly fulfilling the party's policy on the light industry revolution.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has taught: We must supply raw materials and processed materials that are needed in the production of consumer goods to the light industrial sector so that they do not run short, including raw materials and processed materials such as synthetic fibers, synthetic resins, basic science products, iron and steel materials of various sizes and quality, second-stage metal processing goods, and non-ferrous metal processing goods.

Satisfactorily supplying raw materials and processed materials to the light industrial plants is an important demand in normalizing the production of the people's consumer goods at a high level.

The light industry sector produces various kinds of raw materials and processed materials used to produce a diverse number of consumer goods needed in the everyday lives of the people. This is closely linked with various sectors of the people's economy. If one wants to weave cloth; produce household iron and wooden ware; and make delicious, highly nutritious foodstuffs in the light industry sector, then various raw materials and processed materials must be satisfactorily produced and supplied by the chemical and metal industries as well as the forestry, fisheries, and agricultural sectors.

No matter how much the light industry plants are equipped with up-to-date light industry equipment and labor, if the related sectors do not satisfactorily supply the necessary raw materials and processed materials, then production cannot be normalized at a high level. Currently the potential for production in the light industrial plants of our country is great. Even if we operate at full capacity only the existing light industry plants and normalize production at a high level, we can further produce and supply various high quality consumer goods for the people.

Ceaselessly enhancing the lives of the people is a supreme principle in our party's activities, and the purpose in constructing socialism is to provide an affluent and happy life for the people.

In the past, we, who led a frugal life and who saved every penny, constructed the light industry plants. Therefore the problem of proving their worth in the light industry plants is not a work limited only to the functionaries of the plants, but is an honorable work which party members and workers in all sectors and units must carry out.

The enthusiasm and morale of the functionaries and workers in the light industry sectors, who are currently upholding and vigorously launching the tasks put forth in the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's New Year address and dear Comrade Kim Chong-il's historic work "On Thoroughly Fulfilling the Light Industrial Revolution," are great. In accordance with their upsurge in revolutionary enthusiasm, if related sectors further satisfactorily supply raw materials and processed materials, then there will be a new turning point in fulfilling the party's policy on the light industry revolution. When this is achieved, more high quality consumer goods can be produced so that these products can fill the stores and completely display the superiority of our country's socialist system, which is the most superior socialism.

If raw materials and processed materials are to be satisfactorily produced and supplied to the light industry plants, the guiding functionaries must have a correct position and viewpoint on the party's policy on the light industry revolution and further enhance their responsibility and role.

Our party's firm will and determination is to achieve a decisive turning point in the production of the people's consumer goods in the shortest time by carrying out the light industry revolution.

Today, the loyalty towards the party by our functionaries must be shown not in words but by the practical struggle to realize the party's decisive plan. When the party's determination to carry out its policy on the light industry revolution under all conditions is established, then its responsibility and role is enhanced and there will always be interest in the work to supply raw materials and processed materials to the light industry plants.

The functionaries in all sectors and units of the people's economy must bear in mind that the light industry revolution is honorable and responsible work which they must carry out, and that they must throw themselves into satisfactorily resolving the issue of supplying raw materials and processed materials to light industry with enthusiasm.

Functionaries of the ministries and commissions of the State Administration Council, in particular, must responsibly organize and order all issues that are put forth in the supply and use of raw materials and processed materials, such drawing up a plan to transport raw materials and processed materials to the light industry plants and effectively use these raw materials and processed materials so that more consumer goods can be produced.

Supplying raw materials and processed materials to the light industry plants is a very heavy duty for the chemical industry. The chemical industry is one of the key industries which plays an especially important role in supplying raw materials to the light industry plants.

From its early days our party emphasized the chemical industry. Therefore efforts were made to satisfactorily produce and supply chemical fiber, synthetic resins, and basic chemical products to light industries directly linked with the lives of the people. As the production scale of light industry increases, and at a time when the demand for raw materials and processed materials have increased extraordinarily, satisfactorily producing and supplying raw materials and processed materials to the chemical industrial sector is becoming a very important issue.

In his New Year address, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song deeply perceived the position and role of the chemical industry in supplying raw materials and processed materials to light industry and put forth the work to operate at full capacity the chemical plants this year so that chemical fibers and various raw materials can be satisfactorily supplied to light industry plants.

In the chemical industrial sector we must uphold the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's New Year address and operate chemical plants at full capacity so that production can be normalized at a high level. Therefore various supplementary materials such as chemical fiber, synthetic resins, caustic soda, sodium carbonate, dyes, paint, and salt must be produced on a large-scale.

In the chemical industrial sector, much emphasis must be put on the production of vinalon so that more chemical fibers such as synthetic fiber and anilon can be produced. By doing so over a short period of time, we must be able to achieve ahead of schedule our goal of producing cloth.

In the metal industry and the forestry sector, iron and steel materials of various sizes and quality, second-stage metal processing goods, non-ferrous metal processing goods—including thin cold steel sheets and stainless steel—and whole logs must be satisfactorily supplied to light industrial plants. In related sectors, electricity and coal must be satisfactorily supplied.

What is just as important as production is to transport the equipment, raw materials, and processed materials to the light industry plants at the appointed time.

In the communications and transportation sector, transportation by railway, ship, and automobile must be organized rationally so that fuel, raw materials, and processed materials can be transported to the light industry plants at the appointed time. Also, the work to transport the products that have been produced at light industrial plants to the consumers must be carried out satisfactorily.

Carrying out purchasing work successfully is one of the important works in putting an emphasis on the supply of raw materials to local industry. The purchasing work must be carried out well so that agricultural products, livestock products, and subsidiary products of the farmers can be effectively mobilized and used, thus actively increasing the production of the people's consumer goods.

In local areas their own base for raw materials can be created, the production of the raw materials for the local industry increased, favorable conditions for purchasing given to the purchasing organizations, and actively purchasing activities carried out so they can further produce raw materials and processed materials that are necessary in local industry.

The reality is that we are faced with the task of further producing much more consumer goods for the people by operating at full capacity the light industry plants and by normalizing production at a high level. This demands that the role of the party organizations of each class and related sectors be enhanced.

Party organizations of all sectors of the people's economy which supply raw materials and processed materials to the light industry sector must continue to deeply explain and advertise the importance of their duty in carrying out the correctness of the party's policy on the light industry revolution and the importance of their duty in its fulfillment among the party members and workers. Therefore, with high revolutionary spirit and military might, they must remarkably increase the production of the raw materials and processed materials for the light industry plants with the revolutionary spirit of the great Chollima period.

The party organizations must make the economic guiding functionaries plan the production and organization work of sending raw materials and processed materials to the light industrial plants from the position of a master who is responsible for the people's lives, and must make them lead the masses by being an exemplary model.

Let us all highly uphold the party's policy on the light industry revolution and actively struggle to satisfactorily supply raw materials and processed materials to the light industrial plants so that an epoch-making turning point can be achieved in the production of the people's consumer goods.

Komdok Mining Complex Reports Increased Production

SK0602151691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1459 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 6 (KCNA)—The Komdok mining complex, a leading lead and zinc ore producer of Korea, has brought about an unprecedented upsurge in production, entering this year.

The complex overfulfilled the January commitments under this year's plan set nearly 40 percent higher than that of last year. This means a gain of 10,000 more tons in lead and zinc output above that in December last year.

Such growth is firmly guaranteed by some 120 promising cutting faces, ore dressing facilities with a 15 million ton capacity, 12 kilometre large-size belt conveyer line stretching to a 1,200 metre high mountain top.

Associated with the proud successes and creations are imperishable feats performed by dear Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Early in July 1975, Comrade Kim Chong-il personally went down to an underground cutting face of the complex to inspire the miners to new feats.

He comprehensively indicated the tasks and ways of rapidly turning the mine into a big nonferrous metal ore production centre.

After his on-the-spot guidance the complex vigorously pushed ahead with the construction of a large-size, long-distance belt conveyer pit and a shaft, the project for the expansion of capacity of the dressing plant and the project of a tailing settling basin and the introduction of large and modern equipment and the diversification of transport.

A dressing plant with a 10 million ton capacity was built in a matter of one year and an underground second-stage crushing ground with a several million ton capacity was completed in a few months in the 80s.

Several large shafts and scores of big cutting faces were built and the capacity of the April 5 youth electric car pit was expanded six times.

The complex has thus turned into a powerful lead and zinc ore production centre, taking a big share in the nonferrous metal ore production of the country.

The mining, transport and dressing capacity of the complex more than trebled over the past 16 years.

The complex is now turning out in two days what was produced in the peak year before the liberation of the country (1945).

Taehung Magnesium Mining, Processing Featured

SK3101113891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1013 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 31 (KCNA)—The Taehung Youth General Mining Enterprise is one of the centres of the mighty magnesia clinker industry of Korea. It is situated in Tanchon City, South Hamgyong Province, the northeastern part of the country.

Magnesite deposited in Taehung area is high on the world's list in its quantity and quality. The magnesite seam there is 3.5 km long and 600-1,200 metres wide. The volume of ores confirmed so far is billions of tons.

The Taehung mine which was commissioned in 1955 with an annual production of 5,000 tons was extensively developed in the 70s and was further expanded in the 80s to turn into a general enterprise.

Very vast is the prospect of the enterprise which accounts for nearly a half of the nation's output of magnesite ore and great part of the output of magnesia clinker.

A reconstruction and expansion project is now progressing fast to treble the production capacity.

Large-scale terraced open-cast cutting faces have taken shape at the Pukdu branch mine and an ore dropping chute extending more than 460 metres which links it with the Muhak branch mine, and a crushing ground have cropped up.

The ore conveyance capacity of the enterprise has doubled with the completion of the ore dropping chute and crushing ground with an ore treating capacity of more than two million tons.

Two more systems of ore dropping chute and crushing ground will be built.

The belt conveyer line with a capacity of millions of tons extending 2,000 metres, which links together the crushing ground of the Muhak branch mine and an ore yard of the railway station entered a test operation.

The construction of the crushing and sorting plant and ore yard of the railway station is near completion.

The magnesia clinker branch factory has set itself a goal of completing the reconstruction of ten calcining kilns within the first half of the year.

The enterprise is being reinforced with 5.2 cubic metre excavators, 40 ton trucks, deep boring machines and other efficient machines.

Speed of Power Station Construction Increases

SK3001124791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1013 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 30 (KCNA)—The DPRK is building many hydraulic and thermal power stations.

According to Pak Myong-ha, director of the Power Resources Development Department of the Power Industry Commission, the construction of more than 10 large power stations including the Namgang and Nyongwon power stations and the East Pyongyang thermal power plant and some 860 minor power stations is progressing fast.

The builders of the Orangchon power station have increased the speed of construction 20 percent entering this year. They are pressing ahead with road building for the dam project after completing by and large the driving of three working tunnels for the waterway.

The builders of the Namgang power station are accelerating dam concrete tamping and excavation for the generator rooms. They set themselves the goal of completing dam building before the rainy season.

The builders of the East Pyongyang thermal power plant did hundreds of thousands of cubic metres of earth removing and concrete tamping and assembled thousands of square metres of pre-fab parts to carry out a great part of the projects including the construction of boiler No.1 and the chemical purification ground and railway line branding into the construction site last year and are energetically pushing forward this month the projects of the main buildings, the outdoor transformer substation, the industrial water system and the assembling of equipment.

The builders of the December thermal power plant are stepping up the assembling of the installations of boilers Nos. 5 and 6, having finished in the main the assembling of the equipment of several boilers.

Meanwhile, the construction of minor power stations suitable to the local conditions is being pushed forward in the provinces.

The builders of the power stations in Yanggang, South and North Hamgyong, Kangwon and other provinces are accelerating the assembling of equipment along with dam construction.

Acts of Aged 'Meritorious Persons' Noted

SK0602120391 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2300 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] In Pyongyang City, those meritorious persons who are over 60 years old and thus receive old-aged pension constantly bring into bloom a beautiful flower of the revolution, greatly impressing a large number of people.

Those persons, who were standard-bearers of innovation and creators of achievement in the past days, have found work for themselves according to their health condition. For the past seven years, they have translated approximately 170 books and a large number of materials helpful to the indoctrination of the revolutionary traditions of our party and to the development of the national science and technology, and sent them to organs concerned.

In addition, they have put forward many inventions for conserving labor, equipment, and facilities, and they have mapped out a technological innovation plan for production. They have also produced approximately 180 kinds of people's consumer goods and souvenirs with the reserves they have found, and they have helped improve the enterprise management of plants and enterprises. By so doing, they have given approximately 68 million benefits in won per year to the state.

The communist-oriented acts of those meritorious persons—who have devoted their creative wisdom and abilities, invariably even in their old age, to growth and development of the fatherland, without desiring others' recognition and without expecting any honor and reward—properly show their burning loyalty to reward the great benevolence of the party and the leader and to constantly glorify their life in a sacred road for the country and people. Those acts also show the noble ideological and mental traits—an expression of the socialist patriotic spirit—of the chuche-type persons who have been indoctrinated and brought up by the great party.

Dear Comrade Kim Chong-il who infinitely cherishes meritorious persons gives them the warm consideration of highly evaluating their acts and of giving thanks to them on several occasions.

Achievements of Writers, Poets for 1990 Viewed

SK0502113291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1033 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 5 (KCNA)—The writers and poets of Korea produced some 20 full-length and medium-length novels, 190 stories and 2,600 lyric poems and words of songs, more than 3,300 all told, last year.

The works vividly represent the looks of Korea where the leader, the party and the masses are single-heartedly united and the optimistic and happy life of the Korean people who are building socialism with the conviction of victory under the leadership of the party.

Kim Pyong-hun, director of the Korean Literary Production, told KCNA that the writers and poets, after receiving a letter from dear Comrade Kim Chong-il, are creating with redoubled energy works reflecting the demand of the time and the revolution, the desire and aspiration of the people.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, upon receiving a letter from the poets of the Korean Literary Production pledging their neverlasting loyalty to the party, sent a significant reply letter on December 27 last year to the entire writers and poets of the production, hoping them to be an eternal companion, a faithful helper and a good adviser in the building and activity of our party.

Central Committee Meeting of Korean Writers Held

SK3101051391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0452 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 31 (KCNA)—An enlarged plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Korean Writers Union was held here on January 30.

The meeting discussed matters of effecting a new upswing in the creation of literary works in hearty response to the reply letter sent by dear Comrade Kim Chong-il to the entire comrades of the Korean Literary Production.

It pointed out that Comrade Kim Chong-il unfolded the great programme of building the chuche-oriented literature and has wisely led the writers to carry it through, thereby ushering in a great heyday of the chuche-oriented literature in this land.

Noting that all the writers should effect a new upswing in the creation of literary works, cherishing in their mind deep trust and solicitude of our party, the meeting raised concrete tasks and ways to this end.

It stressed the need for the writers to achieve a shining success in the creation of literary works on the occasions of February and April 1992.

Modern Children's Hospital Planned for Pyongyang

SK3101062491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0511 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 31 (KCNA)—A modern central children's hospital is to be built in Yonmot-dong in the capital city of Pyongyang.

The hospital with a total floor space of 120,000 square meters will consist of 15 buildings ranging from two to fifteen stories. It will have wards for out-patients, inpatients (1,000 beds), diagnostic treatment, and convalescence, a building for scientific researches and education, an international seminar hall, a meeting hall, and building for services and management.

A "hospital school" will be housed in the scientific research and education building and classrooms in the inpatients treatment ward.

At the "hospital school" classes will be conducted according to the educational program to avoid the suspension of study of school children in hospital.

It is planned to lay out a park in the precinct of the hospital in accordance with the psychological characteristics of children.

The hospital will be furnished with modern medical equipment and up-to-date apparatuses for scientific researches.

Central Memorial Meeting for Kim Chaek Held

SK0502081691 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2100 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Excerpts] A central memorial meeting to mark the 40th anniversary of the death of Comrade Kim Chaek, the communist revolutionary fighter who was endlessly loyal to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, was held at the 8 February Cultural Hall. [passage omitted]

Present at the meeting were the functionaries of the party and government organizations; administrative and economic organizations; the central organizations of public organizations; general grade officers of the Korean People's Army [KPA]; the bereaved families of the anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters and revolutionary martyrs; the functionaries of scientific, educational, cultural, art, public health, and publication and reporting sectors; the working people of Pyongyang; and the soldiers of the KPA. Also present at the meeting were the members of the visiting group of Chongnyon who are sojourning in the socialist fatherland.

Present at the speakers' platform were Comrade O Chin-u, member of the Presidium of the Worker's Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee Political Bureau and minister of the People's Armed Forces; Comrades Yi Chong-ok, Pak Song-chol, Kim Yong-nam, Kye Ung-tae, Chon Pyong-ho, and Choe Kwang, who are members of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau; Comrades Hyon Mu-kwang, Choe Tae-pok, Kang Hui-won, and Cho Se-ung, who are alternate members of the party Central Committee Political Bureau; Comrades Kim Chung-nin, Yun Ki-pok, and Hwang Chang-yop, who are secretaries of the party Central Committee; Comrade Chang Chol, vice premier of the State Administration Council; Speaker Yang Hyong-sop of the Supreme People's Assembly; Chairman Yi Kye-paek of the Korean Social Democratic Party Central Committee; Chairman Chong Sin-hyok of the Chondoist Chongu Party Central Committee; the responsible functionaries of the party and government organizations and working people's organizations; and the anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters. Also present on the speakers' platform was Sin Sang-tae, vice chairman of the Chongnyon Central Standing Committee, who is sojourning in the socialist fatherland.

The memorial meeting began with the playing of the Partisan Memorial Song. Comrade Pak Song-chol, member of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau and vice president, delivered a memorial speech at the meeting. [passage omitted]

People's Committee Issues Decree on Sportsmen

SK2701060591 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1200 GMT 24 Jan 91

[Text] The DPRK Central People's Committee [CPC] has issued a decree awarding the title of Sportsman of the DPRK People with the Order of the National Flag First Class to the sportsmen who have devoted themselves to the development of sports in the country and to the enhancement of the nation's prestige in foreign countries by obtainging good results in international events with their intensive training, and who have laid the material foundation of sports by vigorously struggling to implement the party's sports policy under the leadership of the party. The names are as follows: Yun Chong-su, soccer player of the National General Athletic Team (NGAT); Kim Kwang-min, soccer player of the NGAT; Tak Yong-pin, soccer player of the NGAT; Kim Myong-nam, weight lifter of the Locomotive Sports Team; Yi Si-pong, weight lifter of the Pyongyang Municipal Sports Team; and Kim Yong-su, weight lifter of the Kaesong Municipal Sports Team.

President of the DPRK, Kim Il-song 16 January 1991, Pyongyang

Further Coverage of Yon Hyong-muk's Malaysia Trip

Calls on Malaysian King

SK0702073291 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1200 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Yon Hyong-muk, premier of our country's Administration Council, paid a courtesy call on Malaysian King Muhibbuddin Shah ibni Sultan Azlan yesterday. On this occasion, the premier delivered greetings and gifts from the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song to King Muhibbuddin Shah ibni Sultan Azlan. The king deeply appreciated this and asked the premier to extend his warm greetings and gifts to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song.

Referring to the reunification of Korea, the king said that Malaysia hopes that the reunification of Korea will be achieved at the earliest possible date. The conversation took place in a friendly atmosphere.

Present on this occasion were Kim Pok-sin, vice premier of the Administration Council; Vice Foreign Minister Cho Kyu-il; our country's ambassador to Malaysia; the Malaysian vice foreign and finance ministers; and the Malaysian ambassador to our country.

Considers Visit Successful, Departs

BK0702101291 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0708 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] Subang, Feb 7 (BERNAMA)—North Korean Prime Minister Yon Hyong-muk said Thursday that his four-day visit to Malaysia, which among others, had enhanced on the expansion of bilateral trade, was a successful one.

"We are very pleased with the success of our visit to Malaysia," he said in a statement issued at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport here before leaving for home.

In the statement, he also pledged his government's "full support" for Malaysia's proposal to create an East Asian economic common market zone to counter trade protectionism policies by the United States and Europe.

Yon said North Korea and Malaysia had exchanged useful opinions on further expansion and development of economic and trade relations.

"We have realised that we have much potential and possibilities for broader exchange and cooperation," he said.

According to him, North Korea and Malaysia had reached a "satisfactory agreement" on matters relating to joint cooperation and ventures in various fields including rubber, palm oil, tin as well as trade.

Yon said that in his discussions with his Malaysian counterpart, Dr. Mahathir Mohamed, they talked on issues aimed at further expanding and developing ties and cooperation between the two countries. He had also conveyed a letter from the President Kim Il-song to the Malaysian prime minister. Yon said that he was "deeply impressed" with the success achieved by the Malaysian people.

He also said that his government would make every effort to develop relations between the North Korean and Malaysian people.

Yong Hyong-muk Sends Sympathy Message to Pakistan

SK0702051691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0451 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] Pyongyang February 7 (KCNA)—Yon Hyong-muk, premier of the Administration Council, sent a message of sympathy to his Pakistani counterpart Mian Mohammad Nawaz Sharif.

Upon receiving the unhappy news of a heavy loss in human lives caused by a strong earthquake in the northern area of Pakistan, he expressed deep sympathy and condolences to the Pakistani prime minister and the bereaved families of the victims.

Ambassador Meets Nicaraguan President 29 Jan

SK0702072791 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1500 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] On 29 January Violeta Chamorro, President of the Republic of Nicaragua, met with O Sung-hwan, our country's ambassador.

At the talks, the ambassador conveyed greetings from the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and dear Comrade Kim Chong-il to President Violeta Chamorro.

Expressing deep appreciation, the president asked the ambassador to convey her sincere greetings to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and dear Comrade Kim Chong-il.

The president touched on the issue of developing relations between Nicaragua and the DPRK, and said she hopes that the peaceful reunification of Korea will be achieved at an early date.

The talks proceeded in an amicable atmosphere.

Commonwealth of Dominica Leaders Meet Ambassador

SK0102000091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1520 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 31 (KCNA)—Korea, a homogeneous nation with the same language and culture, must be reunified without fail, said Clarence Henry Seignoret, president of the Commonwealth of Dominica, on January 21 when he met Yim Ki-taek, newly appointed Korean ambassador e.p. to his country and received credentials from him.

The president stated that the reunification of Korea must be realized according to the reasonable proposal for reunification through confederation put forward by the great leader President Kim Il-song in his New Year address.

On the same day Mary Eugenia Charles, prime minister of the Commonwealth of Dominica, met the Korean ambassador and said that the proposal of the great leader His Excellency Kim Il-song to adopt a nonaggression declaration between the North and South of Korea is an excellent one favorable to Korean reunification and the proposal for reunification by means of confederation is a good one.

She stressed that the Commonwealth of Dominica supports the efforts of the government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for national reunification.

J. Boston, general secretary of the Dominica Freedom Party, when he met the Korean ambassador on January 22, noted that his party supports the proposal for national reunification put forward by the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and welcomes activities of the WPK to achieve national reunification through dialogue and negotiation.

The Dominica Freedom Party will make every effort for the development of relations with the WPK in the future, he stressed.

Mozambican President Praises Agricultural Aid

SK3101235391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1543 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 31 (KCNA)—An inaugural ceremony of irrigation facilities built with the technical assistance of the DPRK was held at the Maleise agricultural cooperative of Mozambique on January 24.

Addressing the ceremony, Mozambican President Joaquim Alberto Chissano noted that Korea has reclaimed tideland and now produces more than 8 tons of rice from each hectare. The Korean people have good experience in this domain, he remarked.

Saying that the agro-technicians of Korea sent by President Kim Il-song are sincerely helping the Mozambican people, he appreciated the shining successes made by them, overcoming all difficulties.

He expressed thanks to President Kim Il-song for the sincere assistance to Mozambique.

Then, he proclaimed the inauguration of pumping facilities and was shown round irrigation facilities.

Ugandan President Assures Delegation of Support

SK3101114791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1018 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Pyongyang January 31 (KCNA)—Uganda will always support invariably in the future, too, the Korean people's cause of national reunification, declared President Yoweri Museveni.

He was talking with a delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea headed by Choe Ki-yong, chairman of the Education Commission.

Noting that the proposal for reunifying the country by means of confederation put forward by the great leader His Excellency President Kim Il-song in his New Year address is an entirely just proposal which accords with the conditions of Korea, he stated that Uganda positively supports this proposal.

Korea is advancing along a straight path of socialism under the present situation because the great leader His Excellency Presidnt Kim Il-song is wisely guiding the revolution and construction, he said, adding: Uganda is greatly encouraged by that.

South Korea

Gulf Transports To Be Based at Facility in UAE

SK0702100091 Seoul YONHAP in English 0900 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 7 (YONHAP)—Five military transports and 150 support personnel to be dispatched to the Middle East under South Korea's second-phase Gulf aid program will be stationed at a U.S. Air Force base near al-'Ayn in the United Arab Emirates, the Foreign Ministry said Wednesday.

A ceremony to mark the official foundation of the transport unit will be held at an Air Force base Feb. 13. The unit will leave for the United Arab Emirates after Feb. 19, it was also said.

Col. Yi Chae-ki will head the contingent of 30 pilots and 150 specialists in repair, communications, meteorology, tower control, rear-area support.

They are trained in chemical warfare and have been acclimatized.

Fishing Boat 'Kidnapped' by North 5 Feb

SK0702015991 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean 7 Feb 91 p 15

[By Kim Yong-hwan, from Inchon]

[Text] It was learned that on the afternoon of 5 February the Namhae No. 006, a trawler of the Handu Fisheries Company (President Choe Il-kwon), was kidnapped by the North. It is a 160-ton boat, and its captain is Pak Ku-pok. The pertinent authorities are investigating how this boat was kidnapped.

The Fisheries Administration and the Marine Police Force said on 6 February that five ROK staff crewmen, including the captain and the chief engineer, and 13 Chinese—a total of 18 men—were aboard the Namhae No. 006. It was learned that this ship left Pusan in June last year and was catching croakers and thornbacks in the West Sea.

Officials of the Fisheries Cooperatives and the Marine Police Force said that they do not know exactly where the Namhae No. 006 was kidnapped and whether or not it was inside the territorial waters of North Korea at that time. They do know that it was kidnapped near the Shandong Peninsula, China, and was escorted to Nampo Port, North Korea.

Report Shows DPRK Weapons Arsenal 'Bolstered'

SK0702002991 Seoul KOREA DAILY in English 7 Feb 91 p 1

[Text] Despite a superficial decline in military spending in 1988-89, North Korea significantly bolstered its weapons arsenal during this period, the London-based International Institute of Strategic Studies (IISS) said recently.

The IISS's 1990-91 world military balance report made available yesterday said that in North Korea, military spending totaled 4,625 million dollars in 1988 and 4,154 million dollars in 1989.

In these two years, however, the North increased its mechanized Army corps from four to five and mobile infantry brigades from 20 to 30 while reducing the number of ordinary infantry divisions from 31 to 25, thus boosting the firepower and maneuverability of its troops sharply.

The IISS report said that in 1988 and '89 alone, North Korea added 300 tanks, 600 field guns and 500 self-propelled guns to an already massive arsenal.

The North Koreans also introduced a Soho-class frigate, one submarine and four Chinese-made "Hwangpyong" missile boats to their Navy in these years.

The warplanes boasted by the North Korean Air Force include 150 advanced-type MiG-17s, 60 Hughes-500 attack helicopters, 20 Suhoi-25 fighter-bombers and 30 MiG-29s.

As of 1989, North Korea's regular forces numbered 1,111,000, the fifth-largest standing army in the world, and the share of military expenditures in the nation's GNP stood at 9.8 percent versus South Korea's 4.7 percent, the report said.

North Considers Allowing Visit by Assemblymen

SK0102084091 Seoul YONHAP in English 0756 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 1 (OANA-YONHAP)—North Korea has agreed to favorably consider a proposal for South Korea to send a large-scale delegation to Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) meeting in Pyongyang through the truce village of Panmunjom.

The proposal was made during the IPU-sponsored Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Committee meeting in Chomthien, Thailand, South Korean lawmakers said upon returning Friday.

National Assemblymen Na Wung-pae, So Sang-mok and Yi Hae-chan said they discussed with Supreme People's assembly members Chae Hui-chong and Chin Chang-kuk the possibility of dispatching up to 25 people to the 85th IPU general assembly opening in Pyongyang April 28.

They said they suggested that the IPU meeting be used as an opportunity to start exchanges of political leaders between South and North Korea and told the Northerners that the South wanted to send 17 observers in addition to eight official delegates.

Na, So and Yi said they also proposed that the delegation cross into the North through Panmunjom, a truce village on the heavily fortified border dividing South and North Korea. Chae and Chin were quoted as saying the North would consider the idea positively.

Pyongyang To Accept Letter

SK0702095791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0917 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 7 (OANA-YONHAP)—North Korea, changing its mind, said Thursday it would accept delivery of a letter from South Korea about the general meeting of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) slated for Pyongyang in April.

North Korea would pick up the letter at the truce village of Panmunjom on Friday morning, Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly, said in a telephone message to South Korean speaker Pak Chun-kyu.

Yang's message is a surprise to Seoul, which tried to send the letter Jan. 16 to propose talks on the participation of Southern lawmakers in the IPU meeting, but met with repeated rejections.

Contact Allowed With North at Two Meetings

SK0702083891 Seoul YONHAP in English 0749 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 7 (OANA-YONHAP)—Two South Koreans were given permission Thursday to contact North Koreans at international meetings.

The National Unification Board approved an application by the Rev. Kwon Ho-kyong, general secretary of the National Council of Churches (NCC) in Korea, to contact North Koreans during the General Assembly of the World Council of Churches in Canberra, Australia, from Thursday until Feb. 20.

Kwon will hold a joint service with North Koreans during the Assembly.

Cho Chung-hun, president of the Korea Junior Chamber Inc., was told he can meet members of the North Korean delegation at the meeting of ethnic Korean youths in New York in April. It is organized by the Korea Junior Chamber of New York.

International Rules Affect Rice Sales to North

SK0702021291 Seoul YONHAP in English 0144 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 7 (OANA-YONHAP)—International regulations prevent South Korea from selling its surplus rice to eager buyers in North Korea and the Philippines, officials at the Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Ministry said Thursday.

North Korea has indirectly inquired about purchasing 400,000 tons of rice from South Korea at 150 U.S. dollars a ton, half the international market price, and the Philippines has indicated a desire to buy 500,000 tons in the form of long-term loans, they said.

The government has not responded because international organizations prohibit dumping of farm products and require prior consent of major exporting countries for exports.

Regulations of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) stipulate that a nation with surplus farm products should deal with the surplus in a way that does not disturb international trade by causing a price drop.

FAO regulations require a government wanting to use food as aid to consult with the governments of exporting countries.

GATT (the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) says a country that dumps surplus farm produce and infringes the interests of exporting countries can be subject to trade retaliation.

Korea has notified the Philippines that it will be able to sell it rice only if the United States and other major rice exporters approve.

Selling rice to North Korea and the Philippines would help South Korea solve its problem of a rice stockpile that reached 2.78 million tons, roughly half the annual rice crop, at the end of last year.

Three Businesses To Import Coal From North

SK0402073791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0644 GMT 4 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 4 (YONHAP)—The National Unification Board has given three domestic business groups—Samsung, Lucky-Goldstar and Ssangyong—permission to import 70,000 tons of anthracite from North Korea this month.

Two years ago, the Hyosung Group suspended imports of North Korean anthracite because of its low quality.

The anthracite, costing around 40 U.S. dollars a ton, almost the same as the world market price, will be shipped from Nampo directly to Pusan or Mokpo by a neutral-flag vessel.

North Korean anthracite has much higher thermal capacity than foreign coal and so makes better coal briquettes when mixed with South Korean coal.

The import was arranged through traders in China.

Businessman Allowed To Import North Korean Books

SK2901102491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0924 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 29 (YONHAP)—A South Korean businessman won permission Tuesday to import books from North Korea and contact North Koreans for that purpose.

The National Unification Board approved an application by Kim Sung-kyon, president of the South-North Trading Co., to import three sets of North Korean books in 606 volumes altogether—401 volumes of the Yijo Shillok (Chronicles of the Yi Dynasty), 25 volumes of the bibliographical introduction to the Tripitaka Koreana, the Buddhist canon, and 180 volumes of complete translations (into modern Korean) of the Tripitaka Koreana.

It is the first time the South Korean Government has permitted a common trader to import books published in North Korea. Imports of North Korean books have currently been restricted to a limited number of dealers having license to handle "special materials." The materials were distributed to government agencies and press organizations.

A board official said the government will continue to approve imports of North Korean books that are purely academic, such as history, science and technology books, under a policy of opening North Korean materials to South Koreans. The government will consider distributing North Korean books to research organizations and schools, he said.

Publishing Company Seeks Trade

SK0702084291 Seoul YONHAP in English 0756 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 7 (YONHAP)—A South Korean publishing firm is seeking government permission to open a two-way trade in books with North Korea, and National Unification Board officials said Thursday this could develop into one of the most significant channels of inter-Korean exchange.

Yekang Publishing Co. filed an application to export South Korean books to North Korea and import North Korean books with the board on Tuesday, and the board will rule on the application within the legal 20-day period, they said.

The proposed deal is prohibited, "in principle," they said.

Yekang says it wants to import North Korean books on folk remedies and oriental medicine and export collections of Korean literature and history books, and that the middleman will be Minzu, a Chinese publishing company in Beijing.

Korea was divided at the end of World War II into communist North and capitalist South. Inter-Korean trade is gradually expanding through third countries and Seoul has begun to show Northern films on a very selective basis, but dealing in books has been forbidden for political and ideological reasons.

Air Force Negotiates To Purchase F/A-18 Hornets

SK0702001991 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 7 Feb 91 p 2

[Text] The U.S. government is to secure $1.4 billion to begin full-scale development of an advanced version of the F/A-18 in a two-year defense budget plan, McDonnell Douglas Korea said yesterday.

The administration of President George Bush also called Monday for continued production of the F/A-18 in each of the next two fiscal years, according to a spokesman for the Korean branch of the U.S. aircraft producer.

"In the budget plan, the U.S. government is to purchase 56 F/A-18s in 1992 and 1993 combined, and in addition to this new production, McDonnell Douglas will receive funding to initiate development of an upgraded F/A-18," the spokesman said.

The Korean Air Force has selected the F/A-18 Hornet as the next-generation fighter in its ambitious multibillion-dollar Korean Fighter Program (KFP), in which Korea is to introduce 120 Hornets. But the negotiations on the KFP between the Defense Ministry and the U.S. firm recently hit a snag because of the raised cost of the program.

"While many U.S. military programs were recommended for termination in this budget, the F/A-18 program is actually expanding," the spokesman said.

U.S. aircraft programs scheduled for termination under Bush's budget plan include the Navy's F-14, A-12 and P-7A, the Air Force's F-16, the Army's Bradley Fighting Vehicle and the Trident submarine program, he said.

As a consequence of the decision to terminate the A-12, funds have been requested to pursue development of medium attack alternatives and seek a longer-range, more capable variant of the F/A-18, the spokesman said.

Amended Aviation Agreement With U.S. Sought

SK0702014691 Seoul YONHAP in English 0133 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 7 (YONHAP)—The Transportation Ministry said Thursday it will seek to amend the South Korea-U.S. aviation agreement because some of the clauses are biased against Korea.

A report to the National Assembly by the Ministry also said it hopes to hold aviation talks with the United States as soon as possible on increasing flights in the United States.

Korea wants permission for Korean Air (KAL) to fly into Chicago, San Francisco, Dallas and Atlanta, and beyond rights to Mexico and Brazil.

At present, U.S. airlines may fly from America to Korea with stops in third countries and KAL may fly to Honolulu or Los Angeles via Japan or direct to New York, the report said.

The aviation pact was signed in 1957 and ammended in 1971 and 1979.

The United States has called on Korea to allow U.S. airlines more ticket counters at Kimpo International Airport, use of Korea's computer reservation system and a site for warehouses at Kimpo Airport.

USSR Foreign Minister 'May' Visit in March

SK0702011891 Seoul YONHAP in English 0037 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 7 (YONHAP)—Soviet Foreign Minister Alexander Bessmertnykh may stop in Seoul next month to discuss President Mikhail Gorbachev's possible visit in April with Korean officials, a well-placed government source said Thursday.

The source said Bessmertnykh may fly in from Tokyo after talks there about Gorbachev's visit to Japan, slated for April 16-19.

The Korean Government wants Gorbachev to visit Seoul after Tokyo and thinks a decision will be made when Bessmertnykh and Korean Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok meet here next month.

Seoul and Moscow established diplomatic relations Sept. 30 last year, ending decades of hostility stemming from the Soviet alliance with North Korea. Gorbachev has been at the helm of the Soviet Union since March 1985 but has visited neither Japan nor South and North Korea yet.

If Bessmertnykh comes to Seoul, he and Yi may have in-depth discussions about the Koreas' joining the United Nations, expansion of economic cooperation and other issues.

"We (Korean officials) know President Gorbachev is cancelling overseas visits due to internal problems such as the separatist movement in the Baltics. However, we believe Gorbachev's visit to South Korea will proceed as was agreed in two rounds of summit talks last year," the source said.

South Korean President No Tae-u met Gorbachev first on June 4 in San Francisco and then in December in Moscow. No was the first South Korean head of state to visit Moscow.

The earlier-than-expected normalization of ties between the two countries, diplomatic experts say, was the marriage of Soviet yearning for Korean support for economic reform and Korea's hectic drive to eliminate the dregs of the cold war by improving relations with members of the Communist bloc.

It has been widely rumored that Gorbachev will visit North Korea soon before or after he visits the South, and Seoul "does not oppose his visiting the two Koreas one after the other," the source said.

Bessmertnykh will be the first Soviet official of his rank to lay foot in South Korea. A career diplomat, he was appointed foreign minister Jan. 15.

He was ambassador to the United States from March 1990 until being named minister and is regarded as a confidant of his predecessor, Eduard Shevardnadze, who resigned as foreign minister in December.

In a decisive action to help Soviet reform, believed to be in deep crisis, the government recently announced an economic aid package for the Soviet Union worth 3 billion U.S. dollars and a detailed agreement is to be signed in March.

The full amount, to be given over three years, comprises 1.5 billion dollars in tied loans for Soviet imports of Korean raw materials and consumer goods, 500 million dollars in export credits and 1 billion dollars in bank loans.

Gorbachev Will Not Visit Seoul

SK0702072491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0713 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 7 (YONHAP)—Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev will not make a swing through Seoul when he visits Tokyo in the middle of April, Gorbachev's spokesman said Wednesday.

"We do not have such a schedule. Gorbachev will visit Japan only," Vitaliy Ignatenko told the YOMIURI SHIMBUN.

"His visit, which is said to be April 16-19, is not yet fixed and it can be changed," he said. "Foreign Minister Aleksandr Bessmertynkh will come to Tokyo in March to prepare for Gorbachev's visit."

Presidential Secretary Clarifies Maslyukov Remarks

SK2401105091 Seoul YONHAP in English 1031 GMT 24 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 24 (OANA-YONHAP)—A senior South Korean presidential secretary on Thursday said that Soviet Deputy Prime Minister Yuriy Maslyukov's recent remarks related with Kremlin's North Korea policy were "misunderstood" by the local press.

Kim Chong-in, in charge of economic affairs, said, "What Maslyukov meant was that the Soviet Union would not supply any offensive and newly-developed weapons to North Korea rather than what was reported by the local press."

Kim, who also headed the Korean delegation during the week-long Korea-Soviet economic consultation which ended here on Tuesday, added, "The Soviet vice premier did not directly say that the Soviet Union would supply non-offensive weapons to North Korea. What he really tried to mean was that every nation has a right to defend its territory."

Ending his mission in Seoul, Maslyukov reportedly said in a joint press conference that the Soviet Union would continue supplying defensive weapons to North Korea and that it would even think of supplying them to South Korea if requested.

Opening fires against some local criticism that the loaning of 3 billion dollars to the Soviet Union is a sort of "gambling," Kim said, "The loan was promised in accordance with international practices and 2 billion dollars out of the total should be taken for a fund for developing new market overseas."

"It could have been better if the loan had been less, but it should be also considered that the scale of the economic cooperation fund the Soviet Union originally asked last year was 5 billion dollars," he said.

Meanwhile, Soviet Ambassador to Seoul Oleg Sokolov, asked on Wednesday by Assistant Foreign Minister Yi Chong-pin to clarify Maslyukov's remarks, was known to have said that Maslyukov's intention had been misrepresented in the South Korean media.

Travel to USSR Without Approval May Be Allowed

SK2601060391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0515 GMT 26 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 26 (YONHAP)—South Korean citizens will be able to visit the Soviet Union for up to 90 days without getting permission from their government beginning Feb. 10, a well-placed source said Saturday.

The source said the government decided to revise regulations on exchanges with communist countries to cope with the growth in travel since the two countries established diplomatic relations Sept. 30 last year.

South Koreans must still submit a written report to the passport division of the Foreign Ministry or their local government office prior to their trip.

Someone who is abroad when they decide to visit the Soviet Union must file the report with the head of the nearest Korean diplomatic mission.

Trips over 90 days remain subject to government approval and travel to China, Vietnam, Laos, Cuba, Albania and Cambodia requires government approval regardless of the period of stay.

Soviet Space Debris Expected To Fall on South

SK0702012791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0058 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 7 (OANA-YONHAP)—Debris of a Soviet space station will fall on South Korea at noon [0300 GMT] Thursday, the Home Affairs Ministry said Wednesday in an emergency warning.

The 40-ton Salyut-7 space station, launched in April 1982, re-entered the atmosphere at 10 [0100 GMT] and about three tons of it is expected to land in the Straits of Korea at around noon, the ministry said.

It ordered all municipal and provincial government authorities to "come up with proper countermeasures."

The message was delivered by telephone at 7:40 P.M. Wednesday.

According to the joint chiefs of staff, there is no danger of radioactivity and the impact point will not be known until after 10 A.M., when the station re-enters the atmosphere.

Soviet Union To Open Vladivostok to Air Traffic

SK0402072591 Seoul YONHAP in English 0545 GMT 4 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 4 (YONHAP)—Commercial airlines will soon be allowed to fly between Seoul and Vladivostok, the far eastern Soviet port, as part of Defense Ministry policy to open the port, state-run radio Moscow said Saturday in a broadcast monitored by Naewoe Press.

South Korea's official communist watcher also quoted the radio as saying the Soviet Union would allow service between Vladivostok and the United States, Japan, China, Australia, Hong Kong and Singapore. It gave no date.

The Soviet Union may also designate Vladivostok a commercial port, opening it to foreign shippers, the radio said.

Seoul May Host Trans-Siberia Fiber Optic Meeting

SK0502065691 Seoul YONHAP in English 0624 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 5 (OANA-YONHAP)—Seoul is likely to host the second steering committee meeting on the 500 million-U.S.-dollar Trans-Siberia fiber optic cable project, scheduled for March, Korea Telecom officials said Tuesday.

Forming a construction consortium, drawing up an operation and maintenance cost-sharing agreement and Turkey's participation will be the main topics on the agenda, the officials said.

Trans-Siberia Line (TSL) is a fiber optic telecommunications system that will link the entire Soviet continent, eventually hooking up South Korea, Japan and Eastern Europe and stretching over 14,000 kilometers.

Eleven countries have joined the consortium, including the United States, Britain, Germany, Spain and Australia. Turkey hopes to join them and its membership will be discussed at the steering committee meeting, tentatively scheduled for March 18-22, the officials said.

Fourth leg of the cable system, running from the Soviet city of Nakhodka to Ullung Island off South Korea's east coast through Japan, will be laid underwater jointly by Seoul and Tokyo.

The United States and the Soviet Union are also said to favor South Korea's participation on the third leg, which will link Nakhodka with Moscow.

TSL requires approval by COCOM, the Paris-based coordinating committee for multilateral export controls, but construction is set to begin this spring. The ground section is scheduled to be completed by 1993 and the underwater section by 1995, according to officials.

Two hair-thin strands of optical fiber, using bursts of laser light, can carry 7,560 simultaneous telephone calls as well as non-voice telecommunications services.

Samsung Signs Goods Deal With Russian Republic

SK0302012491 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 3 Feb 91 p 6

[Text] Moscow (AFP)—The South Korean Samsung firm has landed a $55 million contract for delivery of consumer goods to the Russian Federation, the largest Soviet republic, the independent Interfax news agency reported here Friday.

Under the contract, signed by Russia's foreign trade association, Samsung is to deliver South Korean-made clothes, footwear and knitted goods to Russia, which will pass them on to farms and businesses that exceeded state-set levels for sale of farm produce this year.

These farms and businesses received special certificates from the Russian government, which had promised to redeem them for hard-to-find consumer goods.

Soviets To Discuss Chemical, Oil Joint Venture

SK3001062391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0551 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 30 (YONHAP)—Vladimir Popov, deputy minister of chemicals and oil refining industry, will lead a team of Soviets on a visit to South Korea to study the opportunities for joint ventures in oil refining and petrochemicals Feb. 1-8.

Executives from refineries in Angarsk and Achinsk on the team are expected to discuss with their Korean counterparts a 200 million-U.S.-dollar refinery expansion project.

The Soviets will visit Yukong Ltd.'s refinery and Honam Oil Refinery Co. Ltd. to improve cooperative relations in the field of oil refining.

In last week's Korea-Soviet economic consultation talks in Seoul, Korea asked for 20,000 barrels of crude oil, kerosene, bunker oil a day on a long-term basis to stabilize energy resources.

The Soviets asked Korean companies to participate in the enlargement of Angarsk and Achinsk refineries.

Firm To Sell Petrochemical Products to Moscow

SK2901034291 Seoul YONHAP in English 0246 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 29 (YONHAP)—Lucky Ltd. of South Korea has signed a 2 million-U.S.-dollar contract to supply 1,200 tons of acryloniprile butadiene styrene (abs) resins to the Soviet Union, the company said Tuesday.

The first 500-ton shipment of the glossy coating material will arrive in Vostochnyy in the Soviet far east this week and be taken by the Trans-Siberian Railroad to a plastic resin processing complex near Moscow, a Lucky spokesman said. Shipment of the rest is due next month, he said.

The deal, the first direct Korean export of petrochemicals to the Soviet Union, is between the Moscow branch of Lucky-Goldstar International Corp. and Polymerchim, a petrochemical import agent attached to Sojuzchim [as received], the state-run industrial supply center.

Ambassador Discusses SFRY-ROK Trade Deficit

SK0102041291 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 1 Feb 91 p 2

[Text] Nineteen-ninety will go down as the first year of full diplomatic relations between the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Republic of Korea, said Yugoslavian Ambassador Vukota Visnjevac.

The visit of President Borisav Jovic of Yugoslavia to Korea last year and talks with President No Tae-u surely have given a fresh impetus to the development of mutual relations in all areas.

Deputy Premier Choe Ho-chung visited Yugoslavia last year when he was foreign minister, thus contributing to the fast development of overall relations between the two countries.

The ambassador said in a written interview he thinks that those two visits were the most noteworthy development in the friendship between Yugoslavia and Korea.

Ambassador Visnjevac said it is especially important for both countries to continue this year the trend of rapid expansion of the economic relation and cooperation between companies from Korea and Yugoslavia.

According to him, the trade volume of last year between the two nations was $262 million. Korea exported to Yugoslavia $247 million worth of goods while importing only $15 million worth goods.

He said, "For Yugoslavia, it will be impossible to carry longer such big deficits in trade. Both sides have to make efforts to export more from Yugoslavia to Korea, or to the third markets through Korea. We expect full understanding and cooperation from Korean friends."

For the successful cooperation, according to him, it is necessary to explore all nonutilized possibilities.

"Wide cooperation on other areas will contribute much to better understanding. Our two people wish to learn about each other rapidly. Governments, companies and their associations should support such efforts by own actions: seminars, exchange of visits, scholarships for young students to learn languages, cultures, histories, economies and beauties of both cultures. Tourism could contribute much to better knowledge about each other and on that field two countries have wide possibilities for cooperation," said the ambassador.

He said major changes are taking place in his country including the introduction of multi-party system and market-oriented economy. These changes already opened wide possibilities for Korean businessmen and companies for profitable investment in Yugoslavia.

"I would like to point out that last year, partners from Germany, Austria, Switzerlands, Italy, some other European countries and the United States have signed ten times more agreements about investment in Yugoslavia than they have the last two decades," said the ambassador.

In the so-called socialist countries and the Soviet Union, changes that were unimaginable in the past, have been taking place. A process of democratization is underway. That will lead to the deletion of all past ideological or bloc barriers and opening of frontiers to the free circulation of men, goods, knowledges and information, said Ambassador Visnjevac.

Hailing Seoul's northern policy, the ambassador said establishing diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union and other eastern European countries will contribute much to the above mentioned process and ultimately to the realization of peaceful unification of Korea.

First Trading Company Opens Office in Beijing

SK0102084791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0823 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Text] Beijing, Feb. 1 (YONHAP)—Sunkyong Ltd., a leading South Korean general trading company, opened its branch office on the 25th floor of the China World Trade Center in Beijing Friday.

The tape-cutting ceremony was attended by Sunkyong President Yi Sun-sok and 300 guests, including officials of the China Council for Promotion of International Trade and China National Chemicals Import and Export Corp.

Sunkyong has thus become the first South Korean firm to operate its branch in China using its own trade name.

The Chinese Government is strictly limiting business licenses to joint-venture corporate bodies as far as South Korean companies are concerned.

Samsung, Lucky-Goldstar, Hyundai and other Korean trading companies are now applying to open offices in Beijing. Currently, they are using the Beijing offices of their Hong Kong-based corporate bodies as the sole channel for business link with China.

Belt-Tightening Measures Sought Due to Inflation

SK0202070391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0632 GMT 2 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 2 (YONHAP)—The government, alarmed by record high inflation, announced Saturday belt-tightening measures that will control the money supply, hire-purchase financing and big-ticket government projects.

In an inter-ministerial meeting on inflation presided over by Deputy Prime Minister Yi Sung-yun, it was decided to keep the money supply (m2) during the first quarter at 17 percent to 19 percent of the deposits in March. Inflation was 2.1 percent and the trade deficit 1.7 billion U.S. dollars in January.

The meeting was attended by [illegible]0 ministers, the Seoul mayor, the senior presidential secretary for economic affairs, the chief of administrative coordination at the prime minister's office and the head of the Office of National Tax Administration.

Public fares, except for mass transportation, will not be raised during the first half of the year. Implementation of government projects costing over 300 billion won will be postponed until the second half and the government will try to save 150 billion won on its budget.

Hire-purchase agreements will be shortened from 24 months to 12 months and will require a 50-percent deposit at the time of the purchase.

The ceiling for credit card purchases will be reduced from 2 million won to 1.5 million won, and the ceiling for cash loans by bank credit card will be lowered from 500,000 won to 300,000 won.

To suppress real estate prices, the government has mapped out guidelines on rent for space in department stores and commercial buildings.

Rents will be frozen for the first year of a contract, a rise of up to 5 percent will be allowed in the second year, and up to 8 percent in the following years.

Restaurants denied bank loans will be expanded to those with landspace of 100 pyong (330 square meters) from the present 200 pyong.

Bank loans for other businesses than manufacturing will be restricted and housing loans for homeless people decreased.

Those who spend "excessive amounts" in local elections will be investigated on suspicion of embezzlement, loan fraud and tax evasion.

No Tae-u Requests Study of Civilian Use of Base

SK0702000691 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 7 Feb 91 p 2

[Report by correspondent Kang Song-chol]

[Text] Chonju Chollabuk-do—President No Tae-u yesterday instructed the Transportation Ministry to study ways to use Kunsan Air Base for civilian flights.

During a policy briefing by Chollabuk-do Gov. Choe Yong-pok, No directed the ministry to "actively weigh the probability of permitting civilian planes to use Kunsan Air Base," presidential spokesman Yi Su-chung said.

The air base is now home to both U.S. and Korean military aircraft.

An Air Force spokesman would not comment on the presidential directive.

Neither Korean Air nor Asiana Airlines makes flights to Kunsan, a port city, at present.

The President also ordered implementation of various development projects for the province, including the construction of Yongdam Dam. The dam is to supply drinking water to people living in Iri, Kunsan and Chonju.

The President stressed the need for "agricultural restructuring" in preparation for the wider opening of the agricultural market to imports.

He urged provinces to encourage companies to build as many industrial plants as possible in rural areas.

No ordered the promotion of programs to develop internationally competitive agricultural products and to increase farmers' income, the spokesman said.

As for the upcoming local elections, he asked the governor to ensure that the voting is fair. He particularly warned against excessive campaign pending.

The President stressed that energy-saving measures should be implemented as the Gulf war may be protracted.

If the war is protracted, he said there is a possibility that oil and other prices will soar and speculative investment in real estate will intensify. He called for a spirit of frugality among all public officials.

After the briefing, No met over 130 community leaders over lunch, and asked them to exert concerted efforts to prevent irregularities in the local election expected in late March.

Premier Calls Cabinet Meeting on Housing Scandal

SK0702073791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0636 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Excerpt] Seoul, Feb. 7 (YONHAP)—The prosecution may open an investigation into the Suso district housing scandal in parallel with the ongoing probe by the Board of Audit and Inspection (BAI), government officials said Thursday.

If sale of the apartments to housing cooperatives is shelved, the government will try to compensate those cooperative members who were qualified for the housing project, they said.

Prime Minister No Chae-pong emphasized in a cabinet meeting the "urgency of revealing the truth to the people" about the housing scandal through a speedy investigation.

Fearing that the controversy will undermine the sense of unity and cooperation created by the Gulf war, No ordered that not only Seoul city government and the Construction Ministry but all other related offices fully cooperate in the BAI probe.

Construction Minister Yi Sang-hui told the meeting that his Ministry has concluded it was legal when deciding to allow sale of the Suso apartments to the cooperatives.

"I am ashamed before the people for the controversy," Seoul Mayor Pak Se-chik said.

While BAI is looking for irregularities by city hall or the Construction Ministry and bribery by the Hanbo group, the Offices of National Tax Administration and of Bank Supervision and Examination are looking at Hanbo's books for evidence of tax evasion and preferential treatment by banks.

Officials said the prosecution may launch a separate investigation for early resolution of the scandal. [passage omitted]

Yi Ki-taek Elected Democratic Party President

SK0302052591 Seoul YONHAP in English 0504 GMT 3 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 3 (YONHAP)—Rep. Yi Ki-taek was elected president of the splinter Democratic Party [DP] in a national convention Sunday upon the unanimous support of party members.

Yi returned to the helm of the minor opposition party two and half months after he resigned from the position in November last year, taking responsibility for failure to unify South Korea's opposition groups.

Rep. Pak Chan-chong had earlier expressed intention to run for the presidency but gave up the race at the last minute.

Yi said his party members had reaffirmed support for the DP's policy based on moral principles by electing him and that he would accept the duty as "the call of the times to realize new politics and reforms."

He said he would increase party district chapters from the present 70 to more than 200 and would strive to garner at least 30 percent of votes in the upcoming local council elections.

The DP has eight seats in the National Assembly predominated by the ruling Democratic Liberal Party.

Unions Engaging in Politics To Face Punishment

SK0402024891 Seoul YONHAP in English 0225 GMT 4 Feb 91

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 4 (YONHAP)—The Labor Ministry warned unions Monday that it will respond "sternly" if they support parties or candidates in the upcoming local elections, but said union members may stand for election or engage in political activities as individuals.

Senior labor officials across the country were given copies of a written directive that also said a revision of the labor union law, which bans political activities by unions, would be sought when "social order is established and when unions no longer engage in politicking."

It directed the officials to review union statutes for violations of the law, search for evidence of contributions to outlawed labor organizations and stop outsiders from joining in union activities.

Social organizations seeking a share of political power in local elections slated for this spring include the Federation of Korea Trade Unions, an umbrella labor organization, the Korea Bar Association, the Council of Professors for Democracy and the outlawed nationwide association of teachers labor unions.

Burma

Political Figures Interviewed on May Elections

BK0402004591 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 4 Feb 91 p 4

[By Supaphon Kanwerayotin]

[Text] The past eight months following elections in May have effectively transformed the euphoria and articulate desire for democracy into an eerie silence and meek subordination to whatever shots are called by the ruling military leadership in Burma.

It has been a rough ride for the National League for Democracy [NLD] which emerged victorious at the polls. In September last year, two party leaders—Acting Chairman U Kyi Maung and Acting Secretary U Chit Khaing—were arrested on charges of spying and inciting unrest. Their predecessors were the jailed chairman Gen Tin Oo and leader Aung San Suu Kyi, who are still under house detention.

Now U Aung Shwe, elected representative from Rangoon's Mayangon constituency, is the party's acting chairman, while 67-year-old retired colonel U Lwin is acting secretary.

Upon short notice from the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] permitting them to speak to the visiting Thai media last week, the pair at the helm of Burma's main political party sat for a one-hour session in a military guesthouse room filled with gloomy silence and responses that carefully toed the government line.

"It's just very wise to us at the moment to stop contact with the newsmen, foreign media and foreign embassies so that we can always say to the authorities that we have no official contact with them.... We have also issued an instruction to our members that no one is allowed to meet foreigners or newsmen to release any information without our knowledge.... It's also to make it clear that so far we have confined to the movement within our party," U Lwin said.

The immediate task is reorganising the party's structure as many of the leaders, including its 45 elected representatives, have been arrested. Ten of the legislators-elect went into the jungle to form a parallel government. The NLD promptly expelled those members and said it did not agree with the move.

"It's very inconvenient to work now. But we have to try," admitted U Aung Shwe.

About the arrests of NLD members, U Lwin said: "We were told that they were arrested for crimes, it's therefore very difficult for us to get them released. We got to know the position of these people according to the information from SLORC's occasional press conferences. Through that we only know what's happening with our people under detention."

After the elections, the NLD under the leadership of U Kyi Maung and U Chit Khaing called for talks with SLORC, and openly pressed for a swift transfer of power to the elected representatives. They were arrested soon after.

During the same period, the military leadership laid down a protracted timetable for the transition, saying that "state power would be certainly handed over when a new, firm constitution has been promulgated and a strong government formed under that constitution."

But the constitution drafting may start only after a national convention is called after the government has cleared all election complaints as well as the matter of individual income and poll expenditure is settled by authorities.

At present the political parties have no idea when SLORC will call a meeting of all winning parties.

"As you know most of the Burmese people are Buddhist, and Buddhism teaches us to be patient. Patience is the most important thing in our life. People have a lot of patience, waiting for something," said U Aung Shwe when asked to describe the people's sentiments.

"True Buddhists can easily get along with whatever situation that arises," added U Lwin.

It's now back to business as usual on the part of the constituents, such as those in Rangoon, who are more worried about the steep rise in their cost of living.

According to some Rangoon residents, prices of rice and foodstuff have climbed steadily, gasoline rations have been constricted.

Over the past few months, authorities have also slapped a tight control on rampant illegal currency exchange. The difference between official and black market rates remains exorbitant: 5.8 kyat for US$1 officially, against 67-70 kyat for US$1 on the black market.

"People are occupied with matters of the stomach than with who rules the country," said one resident about the vanishing expectations for democratic change inside Burma.

On the other hand, SLORC is itself busy expanding activities in border areas. So no one has time to linger over prospects for democracy.

One analyst interpreted the six-year development and anti-narcotics programme in northern Shan State as an indication of SLORC's aim to remain in power, to see to the end this ambitious undertaking.

As for the NLD, U Lwin said, "Sooner or later I think the government will organise a national convention or something very similar to that. After that, eventually I don't know how long, they will convene parliament. These are very important steps and moves to be done by the government.

"And with the Constitution, we will have to face a new election. Then we will find out how many people are behind us and whether we are really the popular ones or not."

The two NLD leaders said communications between them and party organisations nationwide were continuing, although the government in October last year withdrew a permit for the party to release public statements, newsletters and the use of any means of document duplicating machines.

"So when we want to issue an instruction, we have to type every sheet of paper," said U Aung Shwe, adding that a few other parties also had their permits withdrawn.

However, the Union Nationals Democracy Party [UNDP] of former NLD leader U Aung Gyi, and the National Unity Party [NUP], formerly the Burma's Socialist Programme Party [BSPP] of Gen Ne Win, still hold government endorsement to distribute information to the public.

Asked about NLD leaders who went through interrogation, U Lwin replied: "We were never arrested but were interrogated maybe more than seven times."

But U Aung Shwe corrected his colleague. "It's not interrogation, but very confidential talks that we cannot divulge to anybody because we signed a document stating we would not do so."

In stark contrast to the two NLD leaders' carefully phrased remarks and calculated responses to questions of political atmosphere, National Unity Party Chairman U Tha Kyaw and his deputy U Chit Hlaing exuded confidence and eloquence in their ideas in the government-arranged interview session which immediately followed that of the NLD leaders.

Asked about intimate relations the party enjoyed with SLORC, the outspoken deputy chairman said, "We're just one of the political parties, and SLORC is the government. We can't stop people from thinking that we and SLORC are together but actually we are separate."

"I don't know if SLORC actually supports us for if they do, we don't feel it at all. And if they did, we should have won the elections," said U Chit Hlaing, a retired Navy chief and former foreign minister during the BSPP era.

He accused the NLD of resorting to "malpractices" on polling day last May when "a lot of highly indisciplined young people interfered in the voting process."

The two NUP leaders alleged that such "malpractices" happened throughout the country, but to pursue legal complaints would be difficult because a law suit would cost 10,000 kyat, besides requirements for on-spot evidence to prove those alleged wrongdoings.

"The results (of the elections) in our opinion were not truly reflective of what the people felt. Voter turnout had been low by our standards.... The indiscipline of somebody concerned had adversely affected the polls and we lost many seats that way," U Chit Hlaing said, adding that SLORC had stayed away from the polling process—to the extent that "they did not even enforce the law on that day."

At present, the two have no idea when SLORC will call a meeting among the winning political parties to discuss the convening of a national convention.

To the question of who would participate in the national convention to discuss the constitution's drafting, U Chit Hlaing said participants would be chosen by SLORC.

"Participants should be all major parties, non-winning political parties might also ask to join and then non-politicians, professionals, civil service and military personnel, representatives of minorities. [sentence as published] It would be a widely represented group who would get together and agree on conditions for the constituion. Then they would try to form a drafting commission and after the draft is finished, they would show it to the people and amend," he said.

The drafting should not take long this time, nor feature any real "tussle" because all parties and sectors would converge on the principle of national interest and rules, he added.

More importantly, "if the NLD cooperates with SLORC, it won't take long," said U Tha Kyaw, a retired lieutenant colonel and member of the BSPP State Council until 1988.

If NUP was in NLD's position as a major winning party, it would work to find a common ground and compromise with SLORC. "Had the NLD acted correctly, we would have been at least half-way through the whole procedure. But instead soon after the elections, they kept asking when to transfer power. This is the trouble. SLORC is very sensitive to this thing. I know it because I was in the armed forces also. We took over not because we wanted power, but because we felt the country was going to ruin," said U Chit Hlaing.

"The 1988 situation is beyond definition and beyond description. It was a trauma which nobody had ever been through before. It was so un-Myanmar [Burma]," he said, explaining why SLORC took over after the bloody pro-democracy event which he described as "movement born out of hell."

"They (NLD) could not agree among themselves but now it seems that they have come to a compromise. I don't know if they really agree or just the elderly, more pragmatic people have more or less soothed them. Anyway we are glad that they now find it possible to accept 1/90 (SLORC document calling for a national convention) as many other parties have accepted," he said.

The NUP vice chairman also alleged the NLD would not hesitate to stage another mass uprising if they had the chance.

Given the NLD's now compromising attitude, vis-a-vis the previous "confrontational" attitude against the military, the NUP leader said they expected SLORC to call for talks with political parties "any day now."

Nevertheless another veteran politician-cum-military man, U Aung Gyi, who heads the UNDP described the present political situation in Burma as "peculiar and confused."

Admitting that the public remained hostile and had no faith in the Army, U Aung Gyi emphasised that the Army remained an institution to be reckoned with.

"Like Thailand, Indonesia, Pakistan or the Philippines, Burma cannot ignore the importance and position of the Army. If we confront, the situation would be very difficult. We have to learn how to work with the Army, which now has 200,000 troops," he said.

"And look at what confrontation brings—they end up either in the jungle or in jail. Our thinking is based on reality. We don't intend to defend the military regime, but we have to work under the present situation," said the leader of the party which groups the old generation of the Army.

"The Army is powerful and can have complete control over the country, and how can they hand over the power to NLD which is deadly against them?" he said.

Maintaining that security was important and that the military government thus had a legitmate say, U Aung gyi said, "We don't wish to prolong Army rule, not even for one more day. But what we want is one thing and reality is another.... Remember Rome was not built in one day."

Youth Front Deregistered for 'Communist' Links

BK0602145191 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Announcement No. 909 issued by the Commission for Multiparty Democratic General Elections of the Union of Myanmar [Burma] on 6 February 1991—8th day of the waning moon of Tabodwe, 1352 Myanmar era]

[Text] Subject: Cancellation of registration of the National Politics Front, Youth [NPFY] as a political party

The Commission for Multiparty Democratic General Elections issued Notice No. 213, dated 27 February 1989, to permit the registration of the NPFY which has its headquarters at No. 13/9, Block 300, Minwun Ashay Ward, Mandalay Southwest Township, Mandalay Division, in accordance with Section 5.A of the Political Parties Registration Law.

Substantial evidence exists, however, that the NPFY has had links with, and is working under the guidance of, the underground elements of the Burma Communist Party [BCP] which makes it an aboveground organization for BCP activities.

This being the case, the NPFY is found to have infringed upon Article 3.B of the Political Parties Registration Law. Hence, exercising its powers under Article 6 of the Political Parties Registration Law, the elections commission announces the cancellation of the registration of the NPFY as a political party with effect from today.

By the authority vested in me,

[Signed] Aye Maung, secretary

Yunnan Provincial Delegation Departs 6 Feb

BK0602144491 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] A Yunnan delegation headed by Mr. Wu Zhongning, head of division of the Foreign Office of Yunnan Province, left Yangon [Rangoon] by air this afternoon.

The delegation was seen off at Yangon airport by U Win Lwin, deputy director general of the Foreign Ministry's Political Department, responsible officials, and Counselor Mr. (Zhi Xijang) and staff members of the PRC Embassy in Burma.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Mahathir Meets Pakistani Envoy on Gulf Efforts

BK0702052391 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0343 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Feb 7 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Pakistan has officially asked for Malaysia's support for its peace effort to end the Gulf war, the Foreign Ministry said Wednesday [6 February].

An official said an envoy of the Pakistan prime minister conveyed the request to Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamad Tuesday.

Pakistan Federal Minister of Railways Mir Hazar Khan met with Dr. Mahathir at the Prime Minister's Department and handed over a letter from Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif.

Informed sources said Dr. Mahathir told the envoy that Malaysia appreciated and supported Pakistan's effort.

The prime minister also told the envoy that any initiative or solution to the crisis must include the withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait, according to the sources.

He said Malaysia could not remain indifferent to the mass destruction and loss of human lives in the Gulf.

Pakistan is seeking support of Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) countries to hold a foreign minister level meeting in Islamabad to discuss the Gulf war and to eventually form a peace committee to initiate an end to the war.

Pakistan, which sent a contingent to fight alongside the US-led coalition forces in the war, also sent special envoys to Africa, the Middle East, and South Asia to obtain a consensus of Islamic countries on the possibility of holding a peace summit in Islamabad.

SRV Deputy Premier Urges Enhanced Cooperation

BK0702041891 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0353 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] Bangi, Feb 7 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Vietnam Wednesday [6 February] expressed a desire to learn from Malaysia's experience and called for enhanced cooperation for the mutual benefit of both countries and the region.

Its First Deputy Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet said: "We want to share the happiness of your country's success and learn from your experience. We also hope that there will be further and broader mutual cooperation in many fields."

He said the existing cooperation between Malaysia and Vietnam should be preserved for the benefit of both countries and the region.

Earlier, Vo and his delegation visited Bank Negara [Central Bank] where they held discussions with top officials of the Central Bank.

Commenting on the Gulf war, Vo said Vietnam deeply regretted the present developments in the Gulf.

Later, Vo called on Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed at his office in Parliament house.

The deputy premier was accompanied by the republic's National Bank Governor Cao Sy Kiew and its charge de affairs here Nguyen Hong Quang.

Vo attended the two-day World Bank development strategy symposium which ended Tuesday before beginning his official visit to Malaysia.

Deputy Premier Meets SRV Counterpart

BK0702090491 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0600 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] Malaysia and Vietnam have agreed to set up a joint committee to enhance cooperation in all aspects of development. The deputy prime minister, Mr. Ghafar Baba, says the committee will hold its first meeting at official level in Malaysia after the Chinese New Year [15 February] celebrations.

This was agreed to by the first deputy prime minister of Vietnam, Mr. Vo Van Kiet, in his meeting with Mr. Ghafar in Kuala Lumpur today. Speaking to reporters, the deputy prime minister said the government of the two countries will consider proposals made by the officials concerned. Mr. Ghafar and Mr. Vo Van Kiet also discussed exchange of visits by leaders and businessmen of the two countries, which they said, should be encouraged.

Further on Cooperation

BK0702050191 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0415 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Jan 7 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysia and Vietnam have agreed to further develop and broaden bilateral economic cooperation, Vietnam's First Deputy Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet said Wednesday [6 February].

Vo said the cooperation will include trade and investments in areas of mutual benefit. He was speaking to reporters after calling on International Trade and Industry Minister Rafidah Aziz at the ministry here.

According to Vo, after preliminary discussions, both countries have expressed interest in setting up a joint comittee to promote bilateral relations between Malaysia and Vietnam.

This issue will be further discussed with the Vietnamese Government on his return, said Vo, who was in Kuala Lumpur to attend a two-day World Bank symposium on development and strategy.

He said Malaysia will also set up a representative trade office in Ho Chi Minh City in the near future.

Vietnam has also been invited to take part in a trade fair in Malaysia in October. Vo said a team of businessmen will be here, not only to attend the trade fair but also to exchange views.

Malaysia is the first country to establish a consulate in Vietnam, Vo noted. He described the setting up of such an office as good and favourable to boost relations between the two countries.

Cambodia

Heng Samrin Reaffirms Stance on UN Solution

BK0702093791 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Summary from poor reception] On the morning of 5 February, a ceremony was organized in Ampil commune, Romeas Hek District, Svay Rieng Province, to inaugurate a school building. In the presidium were "Comrade Heng Samrin, general secretary of the party Central Committee and chairman of the Council of State; Comrade Chea Sim, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of both the National Assembly and the front's National Council; Comrade Dit Munti, member of the party Central Committee, chairman of the Central Propaganda and Education Commission, and first deputy foreign minister;

Comrade Yos Son, member of the party Central Committee and education minister; Comrade Lieutenant General Nhim Vanda, member of the party Central Committee, trade minister, and deputy defense minister; Comrade Im Chhunlim, member of the party Central Committee and first deputy chief of the Central Committee cabinet; Comrade Heng Samkai, member of the party Central Committee and secretary of Svay Rieng provincial party committee; Comrade Chhuk Chhim, chairwoman of the Cambodian Central Women's Association; Comrade Thong Chhin, vice chairman of the party Central Committee's Organization Commission; Comrade Major General Loy Sophat, deputy interior minister; Comrade Uk Rabun, deputy trade minister; Comrade Him Chhem, deputy information minister; Comrade Min Khin, general secretary of the front's National Council; Comrade Hok Langdi, deputy secretary of the Phnom Penh municipal party committee and chairman of the municipal people's committee; and Comrade Phouk Samoeun, deputy secretary of the Svay Rieng provincial party committee and chairman of the provincial people's committee." "About 15,000 people were also present, including monks, teachers, and school children in Romeas Hek District."

[Begin Heng Samrin recording] We want long-lasting peace and not peace for just one or two years. We always welcome the contribution of other countries to find peace for the Cambodian people. "However, it is certain that our government will not accept what violates Cambodia's independence and sovereignty, the people's right to self-determination, and the UN Charter, which would pave the way for the genocidal Pol Pot regime's return. In such a situation, we are convinced that countries the world over cannot accept this also. This is certainly our view and position. It was on this principle that our delegation accepted the majority of points in the major powers' draft agreement dated 26 November 1990 at the last meeting in France. This is our principled stance and our people's aspiration and I pledge to compatriots here and thoughout the country that at all times, in the past as well as in future negotiations, our government has firmly adhered to this principle and will continue to do so." [end recording]

Commentary on Avoiding 'Deadlocked' Peace Talks

BK0702053991 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Station commentary: "The Issue To Which Attention Should Be Paid in Solving the Cambodian Problem"]

[Text] From 31 January to 5 February, Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas; Mrs Edwige Avice, minister-delegate of the French Foreign Ministry; and Deputy UN Secretary General Rafiuddin Ahmad, visited the SRV and the Kingdom of Thailand. This is the latest effort of the cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia and the United Nations aimed at ending the drawn-out war in Cambodia.

Through these visits, Mrs Edwige Avice, French minister-delegate for foreign affairs, thought that a solution to the Cambodian problem was being held up longer than expected. A number of foreign newspapers also thought that the delegation's visits did not make any progress in solving the Cambodian problem. Furthermore, the other Cambodian side slanderously said that Vietnam and the State of Cambodia oppose the UN peace plan. This is the question we ask: Why does a solution to the Cambodian problem have to take such a long time? Why have the efforts of the French, Indonesian, and UN delegations not brought any progress? Whose fault is this? The important thing which slows down and delays the process of solving the Cambodian problem is that not enough attention has been paid to the Cambodian people's vital interests. The other Cambodian side tries to use a solution to the Cambodian problem to serve its criminal purpose, namely to bring back the genocidal Pol Pot regime to massacre and avenge the Cambodian people for a second time. Those countries behind this clique wish to use a political solution to the Cambodian problem as a pawn in a political chess game to further their influence.

On the other hand, the Cambodian people deeply aspire to a quick and durable peace and national reconciliation with a clear guarantee and a genuine national reconciliation which is reasonable, just, and equal without pressure and threat. Every political solution considered as comprehensive and just should take into account the current political and military situation in Cambodia in which there are two sides involved in the conflict—the State of Cambodia's Government and the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea.

The State of Cambodia's Government has nothing against a UN role in the transitional period if this role does not violate the UN Charter and does not infringe upon Cambodia's sovereignty. Thus, we think that maintaining the current military and political status quo in Cambodia is an effective measure to safeguard the aim of a common solution and to guard against the possibility of returning to war. Everyone knows that the other side's forces are not regular troops but scattered bandit groups with no real bases, positions, or garrisons. They live in small mobile bands which have the option of hiding weapons, ammunition, and war materiel in mountains and jungles and in remote areas in order to carry out destructive, subversive, and plundering activities to destroy a cease-fire. Thus, the military aspect of the solution is a complex issue in which violation will be unavoidable. If the State of Cambodia's troops are disarmed—the only troops opposing the Pol Pot clique—the danger of the spread of an uncontrollable civil war will continue to threaten the Cambodian people and might even create problems or destroy the general elections, which is the implementation of the Cambodian people's right to self-determination.

Thus, the Cambodian people should not be put under the threat and danger of a civil war created by the genocidal

Pol Pot clique and its allies. Furthermore, the international community is aware of and has acknowledged the occurence of genocide in Cambodia from 1975 to the end of 1978. Therefore this issue should be clearly settled by taking necessary measures to eliminate the possibility of this regime's resurgence in Cambodia. No activities should be carried out to encourage the clique of genocidal murderers because this would favor the resurgence of vengeful acts by the genocidal Pol Pot clique against the Cambodian people.

If attention is paid to the above issues, a peaceful solution to the Cambodian problem would quickly move forward and peace would be around the corner. However, if one persists in forgetting the above key issues, solving the Cambodian problem would not only take longer than expected but would also be deadlocked and insoluble.

Council Marks Indochinese Communist Party Day

BK0202103191 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 2 Feb 91

[Text] At 0800 on the morning of 2 February at the Chodomuk auditorium, the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense National Council organized a meeting to mark the 61st founding anniversary of the Indochinese Communist Party [ICP], 3 February 1930 to 3 February 1991, under the chairmanship of Comrade Chea Soth, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers of the State of Cambodia.

Present as guests of honor at the gathering were Comrade Men Sam-an, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairwoman of the Cambodian Federation of Trade Unions; Comrade Sim Ka, alternate member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and secretary of Phnom Penh Municipality's party committee; Comrade Ngo Diem, ambassador of the SRV to the State of Cambodia; Comrade (Samphong Vanisavet), acting charge d'affairs of the Lao Embassy to Cambodia; other ministers and their deputies; directors and deputy directors of services, offices, and institutions at the central level; and representatives of the friendly countries' embassies to Cambodia.

Also attending the meeting were representatives of the Cambodian People's Armed Forces, Muslim ethnic group, intellectuals, workers, farmers, and cadres and staff from the central level.

After listening to the national anthem and paying tribute to the souls of fallen cadres and combatants, Comrade Chea Soth presented a speech underlining the history and the traditional struggle conducted by the revolutionaries under the leadership of the ICP to oppose colonialism and neo-imperialism.

Comrade Chea Soth stressed that the ICP was the genesis of the Cambodian, Vietnamese, and Lao parties and the communist people in the Indochinese peninsula. He added that 3 February 1930 was a day of the new chapter of solidarity and friendship among the laborers in Cambodia, Vietnam, and Laos.

On the situation in Cambodia, Comrade Chea Soth recalled the danger posed by the opportunist Polpotists to the motherland [words indistinct]. He enthusiastically welcomed the reforms undertaken by Vietnam and the liberal economic policy implemented by Laos.

Chea Soth Speaks on Party Anniversary

BK0302095391 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 2 Feb 91

[Speech by Chea Soth, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, at a mass meeting to mark the 61st founding anniversary of the Indochinese Communist Party in Phnom Penh on 2 February—recorded]

[Summary] We are enthusiastically commemorating the 61st founding anniversary of the Indochinese Communist Party [ICP] with the Vietnamese and Lao Governments and peoples today. "The solemn ceremony is taking place at a time when the Cambodian revolution has achieved successes in all fields. Significantly, the revolution has firmly safeguarded the nation's social gains since the complete withdrawal of Vietnamese volunteer troops. This is evidence of our forces' mastery in controlling the country, since we can successfully carry out the military and security work that is vitally important for the country, and which facilitates the performance of other tasks."

Our image has been boosted and this is the result of our great efforts and sacrifices made under the leadership of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party [KPRP], whose progenitor is the ICP. "Our successes are the result of the traditional solidarity and cooperation among Cambodia, Vietnam, and Laos." Chairman Ho Chi Minh created the ICP on 3 February 1930. This was also the day a new chapter of relations of friendship and solidarity among the Cambodian, Vietnamese, and Lao laborers began. The revolutionary movements carried out by the three states have developed successfully. The Cambodian Communist Party, presently the KPRP, was formed on 28 June 1951. And although each country has its own party, the three parties in Cambodia, Vietnam, and Laos have been able to maintain the tradition of the heroic struggle of the ICP. This has cemented our solidarity, cooperation, and mutual assistance. With the internationalist proletarian spirit, the Cambodian People's Armed Forces [CPAF] and the Vietnam People's Army [VPA] jointly and successfully opposed the French colonialists in 1954 and the U.S. imperialists in 1975. Cambodia and the Cambodian people were liberated on 17 April 1975.

After the liberation, the opportunist Pol Pot, Ieng Sary, and Khieu Samphan openly betrayed the nation, created conflict, and fractured the solidarity of the peoples of the three countries. They implemented the policy of genocide in Cambodia. "We can never ignore the genocide committed by the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary-Khieu Samphan clique. During their heyday of only three years, eight months, and 20 days, they slaughtered over 3 million innocent Cambodians." They systematically destroyed the social structure, the national culture and tradition, the economy, and abundant natural resources of Cambodia. Then, the brotherly Vietnamese Government and armed forces unconditionally assisted the Cambodian people until the Cambodian motherland was liberated on 7 January 1979. "The victory on 7 January 1979 marks a turning point in the traditional relations of friendship between the two nations which have strengthened and developed since the creation of the ICP."

In only 12 years, we have enlarged our material and spiritual foundations and have become strong enough to administer the country ourselves. We are the master of our nation's destiny. The all-around achievements scored by the Cambodian revolution are the fruits of our nation's great rallying around the KPRP to fight the enemy for national defense and construction. We should be proud of our achievements.

"For 12 years, the reactionary Cambodian tripartite coalition, assisted and encouraged by reactionary international forces, have ceaselessly carried out activities detrimental to the development and rebirth of the Cambodian nation. They have waged a war with the well-defined goal of invading Cambodia and overthrowing the Cambodian State to bring the genocidal regime back to the country." After the complete withdrawal of Vietnamese volunteer troops, they started a large-scale war against our provinces in the west of the motherland. But our people there continually thwarted their attempts, inflicting serious setbacks on them. "Our successes since the total Vietnamese troop withdrawal clearly show that the CPAF is capable of maintaining and improving its military supremacy. This shows the steadfast unity between the armed forces and the people under the leadership of the KPRP." The war stubbornly waged by the three Cambodian opposition groups and their atrocities against the people more clearly demonstrates their poisonous and criminal nature which have remained unchanged.

We long to speedily end the people's suffering and to restore peace, security, and happiness to the nation. "In keeping with the world trend of advocating negotiations, the party of our Cambodia State has displayed great efforts in the diplomatic struggle. Our party and government have at all times maintained the stance with goodwill and flexibility at negotiation forums with a view to reaching a fair and just political solution." The Cambodian people are obliged to fight to restore peace in the country and to prevent the return of the genocidal regime. "The Cambodian party and state have earnestly striven to achieve a just and fair political settlement to the Cambodian problem without coercion, on the basis of equality and the principle of respect for Cambodia's independence and sovereignty and the Cambodian people's right to self-determination. This is a solution the people and the international community want and which conforms with the realities in Cambodia. We enthusiastically welcome the world opinion demanding that effective measures be taken to prevent the dangerous return of the barbarous genocidal regime. The Cambodian people will prevent the genocidal regime's return at all costs."

"We are happy with the sympathy and assistance of the brotherly and friendly countries and the international community. And we resolve to block and eradicate the dangerous return to power of the cruel, barbarous genocidal Pol Pot clique with the view of rebuilding a Cambodia with peace, independence, democracy, sovereignty, neutrality, and nonalignment. The entire party, armed forces, and people are determined to implement the resolutions adopted by the KPRP Central Committee's 11th and 12th congress and the 1991 state planning approved by the National Assembly's 20th session."

We enthusiastically hail the reforms undertaken by the SRV and the liberal economic policy implemented by the Lao People's Democratic Republic. "We believe the relations of solidarity and cooperation among the peoples of the three countries will further develop for the cause of peace and independence of each country as well as peace, stability, and cooperation in Southeast Asia."

Party Paper on ICP Anniversary

BK0302104791 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 2 Feb 91

[PRACHEACHON editorial: "The Indochinese Communist Party's Cause Stands By the Struggle of Our People Forever"]

[Text] February the third is the historic day of the creation of the Indochinese Communist Party [ICP], the predecessor of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV], the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party [KPRP], and the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP]. With Chairman Ho Chi Minh as educator and mentor 61 years ago, the ICP carried out an important role in achieving the supreme cause of freeing the Vietnamese working and laboring classes and the brotherly Cambodian, Vietnamese, and Lao people. Since the dissolution of the ICP, each individual party in Cambodia, Vietnam, and Laos has stepped its revolutionary struggle, undertaken significant reforms, and achieved continued successes, bringing about independence and freedom to its country and people.

Since the establishment of the Cambodian Communist Party—now the KPRP—in the second half of the century, the Cambodian revolution has continuously been crowned with successes. Promoting revolution is not like walking down a street. It is an uphill climb along a path full of obstacles. The revolution, however, aims to achieve a greater victory, and then to enlarge it in the future. This is because the revolution is linked to the interest of the people, peace, independence, national sovereignty, and the common trend.

The 7 January 1979 victory was achieved with the ousting of the genocidal Pol Pot clique, which has betrayed Marxism-Leninism, the nation, and the people, who are now being given a new lease on life. The Cambodian force is now in complete control of the country and is thwarting all enemies' stratagems to reinstate the genocidal Pol Pot regime. Our party will do anything possible to promote the fighting vigor of [words indistinct] and the training of capable and clean cadres to fight off corruption and negative phenomena to boost relations between the party and the people to consolidate the party's role in leading the revolution towards its ultimate objective.

In celebrating the ICP's 61st founding anniversary, all Cambodians remember the good deeds of our party, which has freed the people and saved their lives from the danger of the genocidal Pol Pot regime. They are resolved in contributing wholeheartedly to building and protecting the party and developing and upholding the traditional relations of solidarity among the parties of Cambodia, Vietnam, and Laos. They are also determined to heighten their fighting spirit and sense of responsibility for the future of the country and to definitely bring to success the implementation of the key tasks in this new stage of revolutionary struggle.

Heng Samrin Greets New German SDP Chairman

BK0602063291 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] Comrade Heng Samrin, secretary general of the Central Committee of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party, recently sent a congratulatory message to the chairman of the Social Democratic Party [SDP] of Germany who has just been elected to this post. The message noted:

I am convinced that under your leadership, the party and (?the German communists) will be able to preserve their achievements [words indistinct] the resolutions of the recent Second Party Congress for the interests of the German working people throughout the country.

May you enjoy [words indistinct] and new victories in this noble duty.

Heng Samrin Speaks at Naval Forces Meeting

BK2601102791 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 26 Jan 91

[Summary] "On 23 January, at the Ream naval base, a conference was solemnly held to review the 1990 tasks and the results of the five-year emulation movement of naval units under the lofty chairmanship of Comrade Heng Samrin, general secretary of the party Central Committee and chairman of the State of Cambodia's Council of State.

"Honoring the occasion were Comrade General Tie Banh, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and defense minister; Comrade Chhay Than, member of the party Central Committee and finance minister; Comrade Dit Munti, member of the party Central Committee, chairman of the Central Committee's Propaganda and Education Commission, and first deputy foreign minister; Comrade Im Chhunlim, member of the party Central Committee and first deputy chief of the Central Committee's cabinet; Comrade Um Sarit, member of the party Central Committee and first deputy chief of the Central Committee's Organization Commission; Comrade Major General Chay Sangyun, member of [words indistinct] secretary of the Kampot provincial party committee; Comrade Lim Nai, alternate member of the party Central Committee and secretary of Kompong Som municipal party committee; Comrade Major General Sin Sen, alternate member of the party Central Committee and deputy interior minister; Comrade Phang Saret, alternate member of the party Central Committee and deputy trade minister; Comrade Chum Horl, deputy secretary of the municipal party committee and chairman of Kompong Som municipal people's committee; Comrade Ay Khan, vice chairman of the Koh Kong Province people's committee; Comrade Captain (Tie Vinh), deputy chief of the Navy Department."

In the afternoon of the same day, Heng Samrin and Tie Banh decorated three leading cadres of the naval units. Later, General Secretary Heng Samrin talked to members of the meeting.

[Begin Heng Samrin recording] I am happy to be here today. On behalf of the party, state, and front, and in my own name, I wish all of you good health and success in every task. May your conference score good results.

"I sincerely praise the achievements scored by cadres and combatants of the naval forces and express the conviction that all the comrades will start a brilliant tradition in your units."

Since the complete withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia, repeated military setbacks have put the majority of enemy officers and troops in despair. "The other Cambodian side has shouted about peace but in fact the tripartite alliance has neither the goodwill to search for a solution nor the spirit of responsibility for people's lives. Its main objective is to try to topple our state authorities and take over the leading role for its own benefit and that of its clique. This requires that the entire party and armed forces be vigilant and unite around the party's leadership with the highest determination not to be taken in by the enemy's deceitful maneuvers. We need to have firm and strong forces in every field to maintain the situation now as well as in the future. Our party and government continue the negotiations to search for a political solution with goodwill and a spirit of responsibility toward the destiny of the nation and motherland." [end recording]

Cooperation Agreements Signed With Vietnam

BK0102103891 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0409 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK February 1—A Cambodian delegation led by Nhim Vanda, minister of commerce and chairman of the Cambodian section of the Cambodia-Vietnam Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation, returned here on Jan. 29 from a working visit to Vietnam.

During their stay there, Minister Nhim Vanda and his party were received by Nguyen Khanh, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers. They paid tribute to the late President Ho Chi Minh at his mausoleum, visited the Ho Chi Minh museum and a number of commercial and cultural establishments in Hanoi and the northern province of Lang Son.

The Cambodian delegation led by Nhim Vanda and a Vietnamese delegation led by Hoang Minh Thang, minister of commerce, chairman of the Vietnamese section of the joint commission, signed on Jan. 28 an agreement on economic, cultural, scientific and technical cooperation for 1991, a protocol of general principles on sending Vietnamese specialists to Cambodia, an agreement on goods exchange and payment for the 1991-95 period, and a protocol on goods exchange and payment in 1991.

Party Journal Urges Strengthening of Forces

BK2501093391 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 24 Jan 91

[PRACHEACHON editorial: "Preserve at All Costs Our Great Positiion of Strength"]

[Text] During the past 12 years, especially during the past more than one year after the Vietnamese volunteer troops completely pulled out of Cambodia, though encountering many difficulties, we have been able to fully assume all our tasks and to cope with all kinds of situations, especially in the military and security fields.

The most fundamental point emerging at this juncture is that we have built up confidence in our own strength as we have succeeded in preserving all the gains of society obtained in the past 12 years. This for us constitutes national pride of considerable value.

We have been able to make this achievement because we have held fast to the greatest advantage: our firm control of the administration and armed forces. Moreover, we have further consolidated and developed all of our powerful forces to effectively prevent the adventurous activities of the enemies.

However, we clearly see that the enemies have not yet given up their maneuver to topple us through military means. In addition to military measures, the enemies have sought by all means to eliminate or at least weaken the State of Cambodia before elections. For this reason, whether or not there is a political solution, the struggle will remain difficult and complex for a long, long time. The determining factor of our final victory, however, rests in the strong real forces in all fields, especially the armies, the masses, the political forces, and the economy.

Let us turn the resolution of the 12th session of the Fifth Party Central Committee into concrete activities. The entire party, authorities, and people must vigorously participate in the campaign to hit back at the enemies, the campaign to increase production and collect taxes, the campaign to combat corrupt practices, the campaign to practice thrift and strengthen discipline, and the campaign on the diplomatic front in order to continue maintaining the status quo and to bring about progress and development. Preserving and developing our great position of strength means our survival.

Mekong National Committees Meet 16-17 Jan

BK1901095091 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0501 GMT 19 Jan 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK January 19—The 14th session of the Mekong national committees of the State of Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam was held here from January 16-17, 1991.

The meeting was attended by a delegation of the State of Cambodia led by Kong Sam-ol, president of its Mekong national committee; a delegation of the Lao People's Democratic Republic led by Kithong Vongsay, president of its Mekong national committee, and a delegation of Vietnam led by Dinh Gia Khanh, president of its Mekong national committee. Chuk Lankester, executive agent of the Mekong Interim Committee (MIC) was also on hand as observer.

The delegations were received by Chea Soth, Politburo member of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers of the State of Cambodia.

"The 14th session took place in an atmosphere of solidarity, friendship, and fraternity," said a press communique released at the end of the working session.

The communique futher said: The session was informed of the activities of the Mekong Interim Committee in 1990. It reviewed the activities and results of the implementation of the cooperation programme among the three Mekong national committees in 1990.

It welcomed the results obtained in the multiform activities of cooperation, which each of the Mekong national committees had carried out in the tripartite and bilateral plan.

The session took note of the efforts made by the State of Cambodia to mobilize international cooperation for the continuation of the survey of the Prek Thnaot development project.

The session reaffirmed that the development of hydraulic resources in the lower Mekong basin is a great and complex task which requires frank and sincere cooperation among the riverine countries. Therefore, the three delegations reasserted that the presence of the State of Cambodia within the Mekong International Committee is becoming more and more urgent.

The session stressed that in the present complicated situation of the world and regions, the Mekong national committees of the three Indochinese countries must further develop their mutual cooperation and assistance in the interest of their own peoples and of peace and stability in the region as well.

The delegations visited some development projects in Kompong Speu and Takeo Provinces.

The three delegations agreed that in case the State of Cambodia is not yet present in the Mekong International Committee, the 15th session of the three Mekong National Committees will take place in the fourth quarter of 1991 in the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

Mat Ly Receives Islamic Delegation 19 Jan

BK2201062091 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0444 GMT 22 Jan 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK January 22—Mat Ly, Politburo member of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea Central Committee and vice-president of its Control Commission, received here on January 19 an Islamic delegation of Pakistan and Malaysia led by Abou Talib.

Speaking to his guests, Mat Ly welcomed the delegation's visit, which, he said, would help the Pakistani and Malaysian peoples better understand the real situation in Cambodia.

He recalled the crimes of genocide committed by the Pol Pot clique during its reign in Cambodia in which many people, Islamites included, were put to death, and all religious belief, including Islam, were prohibited.

He brought out the goodwill stance of the State of Cambodia in the process of finding a political solution to the Cambodian problem on the basis of preventing the return of the genocidal Pol Pot regime, and spoke of the State of Cambodia's policy of setting up good relations with neighbouring countries as well as other countries in the region on the basis of respecting each other's sovereignty and independence.

For his part, Abou Talib expressed thanks to the government and people of Cambodia for having warmly received his delegation on a fact-finding visit to the country.

He pledged to help the Pakistani and Malaysian peoples better understand the real situation in Cambodia and to organize more visits to Cambodia for other Islamic groups.

Polpotist Soldiers Captured in Kompong Thom

BK0602144691 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] On 28 January, the armed forces in Stoung District of Kompong Thom Province, in a counterattack against bandits at (Kunthea) and L'hong Villages, some 17 km northwest of the district, captured 31 Polpotists soldiers and seized 31 guns and some ammunition.

On the same day, four misled persons with four firearms presented themselves to the authorities in Pralai Commune.

65,200 Hectares of Dry Season Rice Planted

BK0502073091 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] According to a report from the General Agronomic Directorate, over 65,200 hectares of dry season rice nationwide had been planted by the beginning of February, or over 40 percent of the planned target. The outstanding provinces are: Kratie Province with over 82 percent of the plan, Kompong Cham Province with nearly 70 percent, and Takeo Province with over 56 percent.

Along with this our peasants have strived to plant various subsidiary crops, such as corn, beans, potatoes, and vegetables on 11,540 hectares of land as well.

VOK Reports on NAIC Activities in Siem Reap

BK0702070891 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] According to a report from the National Army of Independent Cambodia's [NAIC] General Staff, on 2 February, NAIC combatants from the 3d Division attacked and smashed a position of the Vietnamese-Heng Samrin army's 14th Battalion in Prasat village, Prasat commune, Varin District, Siem Reap Province. After 40-minutes of fighting, the NAIC combatants took full control of this position. They killed five Vietnamese-Heng Samrin soldiers, wounded 10 others, and seized two AK-47's, two RPD's, 45 M-60 shells, and 15 B-40 rockets.

The same report said that on 2 February, NAIC combatants from the 6th Brigade attacked a Vietnamese-Heng Samrin position at Russei Thom in Oddar Meanchey Province. The 4-hour fighting resulted in two Vietnamese-Heng Samrin soldiers killed and two others wounded.

On 3 February, NAIC combatants from the 3d Division ambushed a group of Vietnamese-Heng Samrin soldiers in Sre Khvav, Sre Khvav commune, Angkor Chum District, Siem Reap Province. Following 15 minutes of fighting, three Vietnamese-Heng Samrin soldiers were killed and six others were wounded.

Villages 'Liberated'; National Councils Set Up

BK2001025691 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 19 Jan 91

[Excerpt] On 13 January, our people's great national union forces jointly attacked and completely dismantled the administrative networks of the race-exterminating Vietnamese enemy aggressors and traitorous puppets Hun Sen, Heng Samrin, and Chea Sim in Boeng Lvea Commune, Santuk District, Kompong Thom Province. In the attack against the Vietnamese-puppet administrative networks, our people's great national union forces successfully liberated the following five villages: Trapeang Toem, Bangkov, Trapeang Prey, Prean, and Trapeang Sdau. After attacking and dismantling the Vietnamese-puppet administrative networks there, our people's great national union forces announced the establishment of our people's national councils in the five villages. [Passage omitted]

VOK Reports on KPNLF Attacks in Battambang

BK0702091791 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] According to a report reaching the VOK newsroom, the combatants of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front [KPNLF] killed 10 Vietnamese-Heng Samrin soldiers and captured 13 others in attacks launched in Battambang Province.

According to the report from the KPNLF General Staff, on 31 January a number of KPNLF combatants in the 5th Military Region attacked and seized a position at Chhuk in Sereisaophoan District of Battambang Province. During this attack, 10 Vietnamese soldiers, including a commander, were killed. The KPNLF combatants also captured 13 enemy soldiers and seized five AK-47's, a pistol, an ICOM walkie-talkie, and some war materiel.

On the same day, the KPNLF combatants in the 6th Military Region launched an attack into M'kak while the KPNLF General Staff's commando unit attacked and took full control of the Vietnamese-Heng Samrin positions at Toap Siem and Sla Kram.

On the same day, the KPNLF combatants in the 7th Military Region seized O Veng position, captured eight Vietnamese soldiers, and seized two AK-47's. Meanwhile, the KPNLF combatants from the 3d Military Region seized Khvav position and were launching offensives into Svay Chek position. The combatants from the 807th Regiment and the 1st Military Region were also attacking Svay Chek position from the north and northwest while combatants from the 806th Regiment were attacking Svay Chek position from the west.

The report said that the fighting was continuing fiercely. The KPNLF General Staff also reported that the KPNLF combatants from the 1st Brigade were launching attacks into Kakaoh and Kamnop and the combatants from the 2d Military Region were attacking the Vietnamese-Heng Samrin positions at Soeng and Chong Ha villages in Sereisaophoan District of Battambang Province.

Indonesia

Alatas Discusses Gulf Crisis, Cambodian Issue

BK0702110491 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1002 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] Jakarta, Feb 7 (OANA-ANTARA)—Indonesia and other 14 members of the Nonaligned Movement (NAM) are scheduled to hold a meeting in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, on Feb 11-12 to seek a way for the solution of the Gulf crisis although Indonesia has no concrete formula for such a solution, Foreign Minister Ali Alatas disclosed here Thursday.

Speaking to newsmen after calling on President Suharto to report his planned trip to Yugoslavia, Minister Alatas further said although there was a difficulty in finding a breakthrough for the withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait and the settlement of the Palestinian issue, various efforts for such purposes needed to be intensified.

It's in this context that the foreign ministers from the 15 nonaligned countries will meet in Belgrade, Alatas said. He also said that the prevailing war in the Gulf was expected to make Iraq and the United States and its allies be aware that such a war should be as it would only claim the lives of innocent people. [sentence as received]

The war, which erupted on Jan 17, should have given a chance for diplomatic efforts to seek a solution to the crisis, he insisted.

One of such efforts, he went on, is to convince Baghdad that the withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait should not be considered as a shameful action.

He went on to say that the world was fully aware on the need of seeking a solution to the Palestinian issue. In the meantime, the United States has to be able to give an assurance that the Palestinian struggle for independence should be tackled seriously, Alatas insisted.

During his meeting with the president, Minister Alatas also reported results of his recent trips to Thailand and Vietnam in an effort to seek a solution to the Cambodian issue.

According to Alatas, the meetings in Bangkok and Hanoi also discussed the possibility of holding a meeting of Cambodia's Supreme National Council (SNC) in Jakarta.

Minister Alatas further said that President Suharto agreed on a plan of Indonesia and France in their capacity as co-chairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia (PICC) to convene the 15-member SNC and a meeting between the SNC and the co-chairmen of PICC.

Minister Alatas said that efforts to solve the Cambodian issue needed to be intensified although the world attention was now focused on the Gulf war.

Answering a question on a plan of the Phnom Penh government to organize general elections, the minister said that such an idea was not new.

Such elections can be held, but Phnom Penh should think twice since the world would not recognize results of the elections.

Minister Alatas also reported to President Suharto on the scheduled meeting between Indonesian and Australian officials in Bali on Feb 8-9 to discuss the establishment of a joint authority in the Timor Gap.

Minister Reports to House on Managing Loans

BK0602113791 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0950 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Jakarta, Feb 6 (OANA-ANTARA)—Foreign loans used by the Indonesian Government since Repelita I (first five-year development plan, 1969/70-1973/74) till the second year of the current Repelita V (1989/90-1993/94) had reached 60.5 billion U.S. dollars.

State Minister/Chairman of Bappenas (National Development Planning Board) Saleh Affif reported the use of foreign loans at a meeting with House Commission X here earlier this week. The repayment of external debts by the government had till the second year of Repelita V reached 18.7 billion U.S. dollars, in accordance with the amount of the debts which had come due.

Thus the amount of Indonesia's debt outstanding had till the second year of Repelita V stood at 41.8 billion U.S. dollars, including the debts of the old order government totalling 1.3 billion U.S. dollars.

The Debt Service Ration (DSR) increased from only 11 percent at the end of Repelita III (1983/84) to 31.9 percent at the end of Repelita IV (1988/89), but then down to 26 percent in 1989/90, the first year of Repelita V.

The minister, on the occasion, stated that the government will intensify the efforts to lower the inflation rate in 1991/92. Inflation which occurred last year was attributed to the shift in the balance between the supply and demand for goods, he explained. In this context, he cited the sharp increase in the demand for capital goods, building materials, land and lasting consumer goods such as motor vehicles, as well as the rise in the amount of bank credits.

The minister mentioned monetary control as a fundamental step to control inflation. He also voiced the importance of increasing bank credits. But the increase must be reasonable and beyond the economic potential of the country, he added.

Concerning the current situation in the Middle East, Affif stressed the need to keep vigilant in facing the negative impact of the Gulf war, especially on the world trade and economy, the exchange rate of currencies and international lending rates. The negative impact of the war, according to the minister, may hamper the promotion of non-oil/gas exports and investment activities in Indonesia, and worsen Indonesia's debt burden.

In this connection, he stressed the need to make breakthroughs in the country and abroad to overcome the adverse impact of the war like what already made in a bid to increase investments.

Philippines

Rebel Reveals Plan To Kill U.S. Nationals

HK0702100491 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 7 Feb 91

[By Restie Dequiros from Mobile Unit 8]

[Text] Javier Sambajon, a recently captured communist rebel, with the aliases Basil, Billy, and Martin, disclosed to the Philippine National Police [PNP] investigators that he was ordered by the Communist Party of the Philippines to execute Operation Black Label, which is aimed at targetting U.S. nationals and other personalities. In addition, it is also aimed at sowing terror at U.S. facilities in the country. Here is PNP spokesman Colonel Chris Maralit:

[Begin recording] The recently captured communist rebel said that their special operations group has planned Operation Black Label which is intended to kill U.S. nationals, attack U.S. facilities and selected personalities like government officials and Armed Forces' officials. [end recording]

Biazon Doubts MNLF, MILF Assistance to Iraq

HK0702023191 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 1300 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] General Rodolfo Biazon, Armed Forces chief of staff, says he doubts the veracity of reports that MNLF [Moro National Liberation Front] and MILF [Moro Islamic Liberation Front] forces will assist Iraq. According to Biazon, if the MNLF and MILF are to take sides, they will support the forces of the Islamic Conference Organization which are supporters of the allied forces in the Gulf. He said it would be impossible for the MNLF to mount any attacks in any of the holy places in Saudi Arabia.

[Begin Biazon recording in English] If I were [words indistinct], I would not be able to take sides. If I am going to take sides, it will be on the side of the multinationals—considering that many of the members of the multinational forces are members of the Organization of Islamic Countries, and the fact that Medina and Mecca are located in Saudi Arabia. [end recording]

Three Iraqi Nationals Apply for Refugee Status

HK0702112691 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 7 Feb 91

[By Jennifer Postigo of Mobile Unit 18]

[Excerpt] The three Iraqi nationals ordered by the Commission of Immigration and Deportation [CID] to be deported, will remain in the country temporarily. They have applied for refugee status through their lawyer Datu Ferdausi Abbas. The Iraqi nationals (Ayser Husayn), (Luwai Najib), (Esah Abdul Husayn Mohammad), and a 4-month old baby (Adil Abdul Husayn Mohammad) appealed personally at the United Nations representative office in Manila for refugee status in the Philippines. With certification issued by the UN office, the CID cannot implement the directive of Commissioner Andrea Domingo. The UN office has yet to announce its decision. [passage omitted]

The Iraqi nationals argued that the CID's order is against international law and they are fighting to stay in the Philippines legally. Aside from going to the UN office, Datu Firdausi Abbas has asked for a restraining order from the Manila Regional Trial Court to temporarily suspend the suspension order.

[Begin Abbas recording in English] Actually, Commissioner Domingo argued on the basis of national security and public safety. The Filipino people can be the laughing stock because how can a 4- year old child be a threat to our national security? Our fear must be so great. This kind of decision will boomerang on us and will be to our disadvantage politically and internationally. Our appeal is that the president should oversee that her officials' orders will not reflect a bad image of the government. The others might think that this is our government policy. We could be looking for a scapegoat to our problems which were already existing even before the Gulf war. Our new scapegoat is the terrorist boogie. Before we used the communist boogie and the loyalist boogie. [end recording]

President Aquino Comments on Bases Talks

HK0702120991 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 0900 GMT 7 Feb 91

[By Gabby Salcedo from Malacanang]

[Text] President Corazon Aquino reassured that the increase in the National Power Corporation's rates does not mean a new round of price increases because the latest power rate increases can be considered affordable. The president made the statement as she reiterated that the government's decision on this issue takes into account the national welfare as its priority. She issued the statement following concerns that these new rates are lower than what was stipulated by the Economic Stabilization Program submitted by the government to the International Monetary Fund. This is called the socialized power pricing scheme. Finance Secretary Jesus Estanislao and Central Bank Governor Jose Cuisia submitted the Letter of Intent, which contains the Economic Stabilization Program, to the IMF.

The president also said that Executive Secretary Oscar Orbos will announce any day now developments regarding the recommendations on the possible abolition and merger of executive departments and offices with the aim of streamlining the bureaucracy.

On other issues, Mrs Aquino is hopeful that there will be a treaty regarding the future of the U.S. military bases in the country as the negotiations will resume soon.

Here is the president's statement, given by presidential spokesman Adolf Azcuna:

[Begin Azcuna recording in English, in progress] ... Our secretaries of labor and trade have assured us that the very low power rate increases will not take off a new round of price increases which are unaffordable. The government action on this increase shows that it is the welfare of the country that is paramount in all of our acts. We are sure that the economic package that we are presenting is the best solution to the current economic problems of the country. Considering that investors' confidence is returning to the Philippines, I believe that this is the best thing, that we are on the right track.

Number three: Suggestions have been scrutinized by my office. The executive secretary will be giving you an update on this matter when it is ready.

Four: Our negotiating team is working out what is in the best interest of our country. I believe that the Senate will be reasonable in its action on a treaty worked out in this manner. We hope that this coming round of talks will be the last one. And that the treaty will be forthcoming soon for presentation to the respective Senates of the two allies. [end recording]

Team Tasked To Implement Plan

HK0602045091 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 6 Feb 91 pp 1, 7

[Text] President Aquino has issued a directive reconstituting and expanding the Special Operations Team to implement the bases conversion plan on six U.S. military facilities in the country with the approach of the termination of the RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. Military Bases Agreement (MBA).

Under Administrative Order No. 207 issued last Jan. 31, Mrs. Aquino reorganized the Special Operations Team to be headed by businessman Delfin Lazaro and composed of Cabinet Secretary Aniceto Sobrepena, Budget Undersecretary Benjamin Diokno, Deputy Executive Secretary Herminio Coloma Jr., and Undersecretary Ernesto de Castro and Assistant Secretary Roberto Rafael Lucila, both of the Office of the President.

The President reiterated in a press conference her desire to see the completion of the RP-U.S. talks on the fate of the U.S. military facilities and a new relationship between the two countries during the last round of talks this month.

She expressed the hope that an agreement between the two countries would be forged before the termination of the MBA on Sept. 16 in keeping with the 1987 Constitution which states that no foreign troops should be allowed in the country after the expiration of the agreement except under a new treaty concurred in by the Senate.

"Hopefully, the last round of talks will take place this month and during the recess it was agreed upon by both sides that they would be working or they would be coordinating with their resepctive legislatures since we know that any agreement will have to be in the form of a treaty to be ratified by both Senates."

"I am hopeful that we will have reached an agreement and as to what the conditions will be, we will have to wait until all of these are negotiated. I hope this will be accomplished this month," she said.

Issues that have still to be ironed out at the five-year withdrawal proposed by the Philippines as against the 10-year phaseout of the U.S. respect for Philippine laws, and "hard cash" compensation for the continued use of the facilities.

While noting that U.S. panel chairman Richard Armitage has a different view of sovereignty, she said that in enforcing sovereign control over the base the national interest would be promoted.

Lazaro, who was a member of the dissolved Davide Fact Finding Commission and the Legislative-Executive Bases Council (LEBC), was tapped to replace former Public Works and Highways Fiorello Estuar as chairperson.

The original members of the Special Operations Team were Sobrepena and Castro.

The Special Operations Team was created on July 27, 1990 under Administrative Order No. 187 to prepare and initiate the implementation of the recommendations of the LEBC approved by the President. It will continue to perform its functions until such time that a Bases Development Authority is organized and fully operational.

The LEBC has proposed the conversion of Clark Air Base into an international airport while the Subic Naval Base was proposed to be a maritime complex.

The team will coordinate all activities related to the undertaking of the base conversion plans, determine the issues and concerns, and formulate necessary actions to ensure implementation of the plans.

It will also provide technical advice to the President on matters involving the base conversion plans, beginning with physical implementation of projects where feasible, and perform other related tasks.

To assist the Special Operations Team are the staff of the Office of the President, and any department, bureau, office or agency of government including government-owned and controlled corporations.

Official Notes 'Flexibility' in Bases Talks

HK0602043691 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 6 Feb 91 p 1

[By Lito Zulueta]

[Text] The fifth round of the bases talks will begin on Feb. 12 or Feb. 13, with prospects that it will be extended so the Philippines and the United States could come to a basic agreement this month, Malacanang officials said.

A Palace official, who declined to be identified, said US negotiator Richard Armitage is scheduled to arrive on Sunday.

Security measures have been further tightened for the talks due to threats by communists and pro-Iraqi groups to disrupt the discussions, official said.

The military has accused the National Democratic Front of planning to launch terrorist acts against nationals of allied countries fighting against Iraqi.

A Malacanang official said there would be "flexibility" in the forthcoming round of talks so it could be the last preparatory to the drafting of a treaty on the fate of the U.S. military facilities.

He said there was pressure on both sides to conclude the talks this month, after they had failed to meet the January deadline set by President Aquino for the talks.

The official also said there were indications that the U.S. panel was warming to the Philippine demand for a firmer accord on compensation than the current "best-efforts" arrangement.

He said Armitage had assured the Philippine panel he would meet with Washington officials in the executive and legislative and "work for a treaty." The official explained this statement was a hint that the U.S. was relaxing its policy toward payments for the use of the bases on a best efforts scale.

So far, the U.S. has turned over minor facilities to the Philippines, while insisting on a "phase-down" period for Subic of at least nine years. The Philippines wants a "phase-out" period of from five to seven years.

In her regular press conference yesterday, Mrs. Aquino expressed hope that the talks would be concluded this month.

The President also said there was nothing wrong in the controversial foreign policy speech of Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus that made mention of the U.S. as "constable America." The remark drew criticism from Ambassador Nicholas Platt who called it "uncalled for."

The President explained that while she did not have to agree with whatever her foreign secretary said, his remark contained nothing out of line.

Militant Groups Plan Series of Protests

HK0702022891 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 7 Feb 91 p 9

[By Joey Caburnida]

[Text] Militant cause-oriented groups have set a series of mass actions that will peak on the anniversary of the Feb. 26, 1986 People Power uprising in protest against what they claim to be the people's continued suffering under the five-year Aquino government.

The Kilusang Mayo Uno [KMU] vowed to mobilize 100,000 workers for its marches and rallies in Metro Manila to dramatize their "indictment of the Aquino regime's total failure to address the basic problems besetting the people."

It called on its more than 150,000 members in Metro Manila to launch massive eduation campaigns that would explore the possibility of launching a "new Edsa [Epifanio de los Santos Avenue]-type people power uprising as an option to the continued rule of the U.S.-Aquino regime."

This so-called new Edsa uprising, the KMU said, "goes beyond changing people in government (and) seeks to initiate thoroughgoing and profound changes in the decadent social system."

The multisectoral Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (Bayan) also vowed to wage an "all-out campaign to call on the people to get rid of a government that has lost all moral grounds to rule, and that is more useful to foreign interests than that of the Filipino people."

Bayan was particularly referring to the Letter of Intent [LOI] to the Internationalal-Monetary Fund which it said is being negotiated by the government to secure fresh loans.

"The LOI will spell greater sufferings not only for our people who are poor, but even for many sectors of business and private enterprise. Previous as well as current government economic policies and measures based on Letters of Intent to the IMF are what led to the economic hardships we are now facing," it declared.

Among these conditions, Bayan said, are the oil industry deregulation that would translate to more fuel and power price increases; greater import liberalization, on one hand, and more import levies, on the other; fiscal policies that would result in the further deterioration of the peso value; and the fring of government employees, either by "attrition" or voluntarily.

In calling for the scrapping of the LOI, KMU chairman Crispin Beltran warned of "a Venezuelan scenario of food rioting as a consequence of the LOI and the Aquino government's subservience to the IMF."

The Confederation for Unity, Recognition and Advancement of Government Employees (Courage) also accused the Aquino government of "using the Gulf war as an excuse to impose several IMF-dictated policies, including the plan to lay off around 200,000 civil servants, thereby escaping from its culpability."

According to Carol Almeda, Courage president, among the economic policies prescribed by the IMF are the current austerity measures imposed by the government such as the lay-of of some 200,000 government workers, cut in state subsidies to basic services to include water and electricity, and cut in the budgets of several frontline departments and agencies. "All these policies," Almeda said, "are being implemented so that the government will have enough money for debt servicing."

Gabriela, a coalition of national women's organizations, also said it will launch a series of mass actions against the planned increase in power rates, as well as other so-called "anti-people" IMF impositions in exchange for new loans being negotiated by the government.

"Ultimately, women, particularly housewives who also work outside the home, bear the brunt of all these revenue-raising schemes of the government to secure fresh loans from the IMF," Gabriela secretary general Petite Peredo said.

"The plan to raise power rates anew," she added, "is another proof that the housewife president really has no heart for the housewives."

Almeda said the nation's problems are brought about, not by the Gulf crisis, but by "the convergence of several factors, including the misappropriation of the national budget where 40% goes to debt servicing, the rampant and massive graft and corruption" pervading in the bureaucracy where more than P [peso] 30 billion in public funds is lost annually, (and) the government's subservience to the IMF dictate."

Army Chief Announces Changes in Top Posts

HK0402045191 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 4 Feb 91 pp 1, 14

[By Wilma Yamzon]

[Text] Maj. Gen. Lisandro Abadia, Philippine Army chief, announced yesterday changes in top posts in the Army's three infantry divisions and two brigades.

The changes in the Army's various posts are part of the organization's streamlining of operations this year.

Initially affected in the revamp were the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Infantry Divisions (ID) and the 103rd and 104th Infantry Brigades in Mindanao.

Abadia named Brig. Gen. Cesar Fortunato new commanding general of the 2nd Infantry Division based at Camp Capinpin in Tanay, Rizal, replacing Brig. Gen. Thelmo Cunanan, who was named chief of the National Capital Region Defense Command (NCRDC).

Fortunato was head of the Army's 1st Infantry (Tabak) Division based at Labangan, Zamboanga del Sur.

Abadia said the 2nd ID is one of the most important units in the Army as it provides support for forces in Metro Manila against groups attempting to destabilize the government.

The internal defense of the metropolis, however, is handled by the NCRDC, formerly under Lt. Gen. Rodolfo Biazon, now AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] chief of staff.

Abadia said the Armed Forces headquarters at Camp Aguinaldo is still deliberating on who would take the place of Fortunato, but sources said one of the top contenders is Brig. Gen. Eddie Fernandez, head of the 3rd Infantry Division based in Jamindan, Capiz.

Abadia also announced over the weekend the turnover of command of the 401st Infantry Brigade under the 4th Infantry Division at Camp Evangelista in Capiz.

Brig. Gen. Renato Garcia was also named new commanding officer of the 401st Brigade based at Bancasi, Butuan City.

Garcia took over the post of Brig. Gen. Regino Lacson who was elevated to one of several staff positions at the AFP general headquarters at Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City.

Lacson is new AFP deputy chief of staff for operations (J-3), a post previously held by Abadia before he assumed his post as Army chief.

Col. Romeo Lopez, brigade commander of the 3rd ID, replaced Garcia, the Army headquarters at Fort Bonifacio in Makati said.

Abadia will preside over the turnover rites of the 2nd Infantry division today at Camp Capinpin.

Commission Confirms Officials' Promotions

HK0702034891 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 7 Feb 91 pp 1, 6

[Text] The Commission on Appointments confirmed yesterday the appointment of Jose S. de Jesus as the public works and highways secretary and the promotion of Major Gen. Rodolfo G. Biazon, the Armed Forces chief of staff, to lieutenant general.

The appointments body also aproved the promotion of 14 career officers of the Department of Foreign Affairs [DFA] and 13 new AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] generals.

Opposition Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile, in a rare show of support for the appointment of a ranking government official, endorsed the appointment of De Jesus.

"While we objected to other nominations, the minority in this chamber has decided to make an exception to this particular case," Enrile said.

De Jesus is a former cabinet secretary and one of President Aquino's close advisers.

The DFA career officers whose promotions to chiefs of mission II were approved were Jaime Yambao, Alice Palacios, Jose de Rosario Jr., Ofelia Castano, Delia Albert, Lourdes Morales, Jose Zaide Jr., Donato Felicio, Shulan Primavera, Susan Castrence, Emelinda Lee-Pineda, Cynthia Guevarra and Jorge Arizabal.

Eufronia Recaido was confirmed as career officer with the rank of chief of mission I.

Confirmed as new AFP brigadier generals and commodores were Elvegia Mendoza, the country's first woman general, Ruperto Pia, Isidro Codera, Jorge Lanera, Antonio Ocampo, Santiago Pitpitan Jr., Jose Ramiscal Jr., Joel Hinio, Alfredo Reyes, Hernanito Cabales, Ciriaco Reconquista, Antonio Yamzon and Eduardo Domingo.

President's Office, Departments Lose Posts

HK0102065391 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 1 Feb 91 pp 1, 21

[By Marcia Rodriguez]

[Text] A total of 2,482 regular positions in the Office of the President (OP) and other executive departments which have been vacant for over two years are now considered abolished based on an order of President Aquino to government offices to adopt austerity measures, Budget Undersecretary Benjamin Diokno said yesterday.

The abolition of the positions and their salary items will bring the government savings up to P [peso] 7.4 million monthly, or P89.5 million annually, Diokno said.

He added that the number of abolished positions are only the preliminary figures gathered by the Department of the Budget and Management (DBM) as of last Sept. 30.

The government offices with the biggest cut in their regular positions are the OP, 105; Department of Education, Culture, and Sports (DECS), 791; Department of National Defense (DND), 478; Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), 289; Department of Finance (DOF), 217; Department of Justice (DOJ), 81; Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), 107; Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), 84; Department of Agriculture (DA), 52; Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), 33; Office of the Press Secretary (OPS), 31, and National Police Commission, 39.

Diokno said the rule on the abolition of regular positions vacant for over two years will not apply to key positions in government such as division chiefs, directors, and others.

He said that while the law does not discriminate between key and technical positions, the government will look into the "essentiality" of key positions.

The DBM is updating its manpower count in the whole government service under Memorandum Circular No. 122 of Executive Secretary Oscar Orbos who ordered early this year heads of all government departments, bureaus, offices, and agencies, including government owned and controlled corporations, to submit their regular staff complement by the end of last January.

The DBM places the total number of government personnel at 1.3 million.

Diokno said the DBM needs to know the number of actual manpower for it to implement the staff reduction program under Administrative Order (AO) 205, which calls for a reduction in the number of government personnel by five percent in June, 1991, and 10 percent in December.

Diokno said the preliminary figures of abolished positions were gathered following the issuance of AO 117 last June 29, which directed government offices to continue economy measures initiated during the period of national emergency.

Among the provisions of AO 117 was the "abolition of positions which have remained vacant for over two years as of the effectivity of the order."

Following the issuance of AO 117, Budget Secretary Guillermo Carague issued last Oct. 24, National Budget Circular No. 418, directing the Compensation and Position Classification Bureau of the DBM to consolidate the reports or the various agencies for the DBM to determine and monitor savings that the national government will generate from the economy measure.

DBM records showed the following government offices and the breakdown in their respective number of regular plantilla positions abolished: OP, 105; DAR, 84, Office of the Secretary; DA, 52; DECS, 661, Office of the Secretary; 25, Institute of National Language; 23, National Historical Institute; 22, National Library; 11, National Museum; 14, Records Management and Archives Office; three, Bulacan College of Arts and Trade; 12, Central Luzon Polytechnic College; two, Central Luzon State College; two, Tarlac College of Agriculture; six, Western Luzon Agricultural College; three, Camarines Sur State Agricultural College; and seven, Visayas State College of Agriculture.

DENR, 236, Office of the Secretary; 53, National Mapping Information authority; DOF, 91, Office of the Secretary; and 126, Insurance Commission; DOJ, 81, Office of the Solicitor General: DOLE, 97, Office of the Secretary; and 10, National Manpower and Youth Council; DND, 329, Philippine Air Force; 85, Government Arsenal; 19, National Defense College of the Philippines; 45, Office of Civil Defense;

Department of Science and Technology (DST), 16, Forest Products Research and Development Institute (FPRDI); Department of Tourism (DOT), three, Office of the Secretary; 10, Intramuros Administration (IA); DTI, 30, Office of the Secretary; and three, Construction Manpower Development Foundation (CMDF); National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), 16, Office of the Director General; two, Philippine National Volunteer Service Coordinating Agency;

OPS, 29, National Printing Office (NPO); and two, Philippine Information Agency (PIA).

Other executive offices: Commission on Filipinos Overseas (CFO), four; National Computer Center (NCC), 22; National Police Commission (NPC), 39; National Security Council (NSC), eight; National Stud Farm (NSF), 11; Presidential Commission on Culture and Arts (PCCA), five; Presidential Commission on Urban Poor (PCUP), 19; Presidential Legislative Liaison Office (PLLO), three; Presidential Management Staff (PMS), eight; Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), 35; and Videogram Regulatory Board (VRB), 13.

National Police Asks Senate for Additional Funds

HK0502035891 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 5 Feb 91 p 9

[Text] The Philippine National Police [PNP] yesterday asked the Senate to add P [peso] 789 million to its budget for this year, warning that fund cuts would affect its patrol and protection duties.

The House had approved a P7.4-billion budget for the newly- created PNP, but director general Cesar Nazareno said it needed P789 million more because the oil price increases had reduced its movement by half.

A Senate finance subcommittee, lead by Sen Ernesto Maceda, said it would push for the addition of P371 million or about half of the supplemental amount sought by the PNP for fuel and equipment.

"There is no question that we cannot sacrifice the patrol capability of the PNP," Maceda said.

Of the P789 million, P371 million would go to the police's POL (petroleum-oil-lubricant) and some equipment, Nazareno said. That amount would only allow the PNP to stay at last year's POL levels.

Nazareno said that under the House budget, policemen's gas allotment would only be 4.6 liters a day, against last year's average of 9.2 liters. The PNP lost 20 million liters in the last oil price increase, he added.

Moreover, Nazareno said the House cuts meant that the police to person ratio would be 1:1,249 or below the recommended proportion of one policeman for every thousand residents.

The P789-million additional funds would also include P31.4 million in travel and discretionary expenses which the House cut; P45 million to increase prisoners' food allowance from P8.50 to P15; P40 million for the national crime information system; P167 million for uniforms and funds for the construction of the PNP's national office.

With the House-approved level of P7.4 billion, Nazareno said the PNP could only have 96,113 policemen, 10,700 firemen, 5,000 jail personnel and 7,996 civilian workers.

Orbos, Salonga Agree To Forge Common Agenda

HK0602045291 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 6 Feb 91 p 12

[By Cris V. Paraso]

[Text] Senate President Jovito R. Salonga and Executive Secretary Oscar M. Orbos yesterday agreed to forge a common legislative agenda for the remaining term of the Aquino Administration.

Sec Orbos, after paying a courtesy call to Sen Salonga at his Senate office, told reporters he asked the Senate president for suggestions on improving relations between the Upper Chamber and the Palace "with the objective of coming out with better services for the people."

On the other hand, Sen Salonga said he told Sec Orbos to look for ways to reconcile the stand of the Executive department and Senate on economic and political issues such as on the bases.

Mr Orbos said the possible visit of President Aquino to the Senate was also raised although plans for this will still be finalized. It will be recalled that Mrs Aquino earlier visited the House of Representatives as part of a campaign to foster a closer working relationship with Members of Congress.

Should Mrs Aquino visit the Senate, Sen Salonga said, "She will be more than welcomed in the Senate."

He said the rest of the senators who did not attend last Monday's consultations at Malacanang will be invited "the next time."

Sen Salonga said Sec Orbos paid a courtesy call to discuss improving the liaison between the Senate and the Palace, noting that Senator Agapito A. Aquino was designated as the liaison for a month or two. "Okay naman iyon sa akin (That is alright with me)."

The Rizal solon said there should be a "better working relationship" between the two branches, particularly on the disbursement of the countrywide development fund.

Many senators, he said, are complaining they have not received the full P [peso] 15 million earmarked for each of them last year. Senator Victor S. Ziga claimed only the first tranche, amounting to about P5 million, has so far been received.

Sen Salonga said Pres Aquino should first consult with the senators concerning possible Cabinet appointments to avoid controversies similar to the rejected nomination of former Agrarian Reform Secretary-designate Florencio B. Abad by the Commission on Appointments.

"There are some basic issues which we (senators) decide on our own convictions... which may not coincide with the decision of the President," he said.

Central Bank Reports Balance-of-Payments Deficit

HK0502035791 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 5 Feb 91 p 1

[By reporter Alex B. Reyes]

[Text] The Philippines posted a balance-of-payments [BOP] deficit of P [pesos] 352 million from January to November last year, according to official Centrak Bank [CB] data released yesterday.

The 11-month 1990 deficit was 146 percent higher than the $143 million registered during the same period a year before, but was 22 percent below the $462-million gap originally expected by the CB at end-November.

It is projected that the BOP gap for the whole year will be below $100 million due to end-year loan inflows from multilateral and bilateral sources, such as the $220-million commodity loan from Japan disbursed last December 28.

A 63 percent increase in the current account deficit from $1.49 billion to $2.43 billion, due mainly to a ballooning trade gap that reached $3.71 billion, was the major factor in the enlarged BOP deficit.

A 256 percent improvement of net inflows in the non-merchandise trade account to $630 million from the $177 million the previous year failed to stem the rise in the current account gap. Net transfers reached $647 million, a 15 percent drop from $763 million the year before.

With the weak current account, the country was again forced to rely on capital inflows to try and close its external gap.

Net long-term loan inflows amounted to $119 million, a 60 percent rise from the $74 million posted the previous year, on account of $3.78 billion in inflows and $3.66 billion outflows.

Most of the foreign loan inflows came from the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank and the Japanese Government. Medium- and long-term [MLT] loan inflows from each totalled $574 million, $287 million and $345 million.

Loans rescheduled with the Paris Club group of creditors and commercial banks accounted for $1.558 billion or 41 percent of the $3.78 billion in MLT loan inflows.

Net short-term capital in-flows totalied $79 million, a reversal from the $69 million recorded in the previous year.

But net foreign investments dropped by 46 percent to $419 million from the $776 million in the first 11 months of 1989.

Actual foreign investment inflows were $641 million, 26 percent down from $874 million a year before but the reason net foreign investments dropped sharply was the acceleration in outflows by 124 percent to $222 million.

With net errors and omissions at $480 million, more than double the $222 million a year before, the non-monetary capital account was in surplus to the tune of $1097 million.

Foreign Loans To Bridge Budget Shortfall

HK0402051691 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 4 Feb 91 p 6

[By Arleen Chipongian]

[Text] The Government will revert to foreign borrowings to cover its budget shortfall this year, a departure from the Aquino administration's policy to rely on domestic borrowings to fill the gap.

In an aide memoire on the economic stabilization program for 1991, the government emphasized that it would start "accelerating or initiating negotiations with foreign creditors" this year for new loans.

As of December 22 last year, gross external borrowings of the national government stood at P [peso] 14.9 billion.

However, official data showed that there was a foreign exchange outflow equivalent to P19 billion to service maturing obligations of the national government.

As a result, there was a net outflow of P4.2 billion because the country paid out more to its creditors than what it received from them.

The 1991 economic program was based on the memorandum on economic policy submitted to the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The program, which is expected to be approved by the Fund's executive board this month, calls for, among other things, an austere economic program through 1992.

The redirection of borrowings from foreign creditors, in contrast to an earlier practice of borrowing from local creditors, could be attributed to the higher cost of domestic funds.

While the average cost of money in the domestic market shot to a high of 40%-45% early this year, foreign loans carry yields of 7%-8% based on the London interbank offered rate (Libor).

Since January, however, the government had launched a campaign to bring down interest rates to around 25% through the reduction in the flotation of high-yielding government securities.

Local borrowings of the national government are made mostly through the flotation of securities such as the short-term Treasury bills.

This early, the country's foreign debt panel, led by finance Secretary Jesus P. Estanislao and Central Bank Governor Jose L. Cuisia Jr., is on a two-week campaign in Tokyo and New York to drum up interest on a new financial package for the Philippines.

At the same time, preparations are underway for the scheduled second pledging session for the multi-billion-dollar Philippine Assistance Program (PAP) wherein the country expects to generate some $3.5 billion in grants and concessional loans. This will be held on February 24-26 at the Hong Kong Hilton.

The aide memoire also emphasized that austerity measures would be pursued by the national government to help cut the ballooning budgetary deficit, which is targetted to reach P27 billion this year from the end-1990 level of P36 billion.

At the same time, it was also stressed that the deficit of the oil price stabilization fund (OPSF), which stood at P8.8 billion last December 1990, should be wiped out by the end of 1991.

The OPSF is a new performance criterion set by the Fund along with monetary and fiscal aggregates.

Government Assures Publicity of IMF Letter

HK0402120391 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 0900 GMT 4 Feb 91

[Excerpt] The government has assured that the people will be informed of the contents of the letter of intent [LOI] which the country will submit to the International Monetary Fund in order to avail of new loans for the economic stabilization program. These will only be known after the IMF approval. Presidential Spokesman Adolf Azcuna made the announcement even as the legislators continue to demand that it be made public. Today the senators, led by Senator Neptali Gonzales, had a meeting with President Aquino. They support the administration's economic program but they would oppose the controversial LOI if it will go against the national interest.

[Begin Azcuna recording, in English] Okay, number seven, regarding the IMF. Partly we should really explain this letter of intent and our program not [words indistinct]. They are abroad precisely working on this program. I can only perhaps arrange upon their return a briefing on the letter of intent and the memorandum regarding our economic program. Furthermore, the letter of intent still has to be submitted to the IMF board, and when it is approved, I think that would be the best time to present a briefing to the press regarding all its details. As I said when the two left, they asked us that certain matters in the letter of intent be held confidential, at least for the present. This has to do with domestic ceiling of money supply as it would [words indistinct] these data ahead of time. The rest of the letter of intent, however, has already been discussed with a number of fora, including the legislature, and have appeared in a number of publications already. And I have also briefed you about this significant features of the letter of intent as it stands now. [passage omitted containing indistinct passage] [end recording]

President Declares Provincial 'State of Calamity'

HK0702022691 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 7 Feb 91 pp 1, 8

[By Lito Zulueta]

[Text] President Aquino yesterday declared a state of calamity in five provinces hit by a three-month drought in the South to speed up their relief and rehabilitation.

Placed under a state of calamity were Iloilo in the Visayas and Lanao del Sur, Maguindanao, Zamboanga del Sur and Bukidnon in Mindanao.

Executive Secretary Oscar Orbos said an initial P [peso] 10 million from the President's calamity fund would be released to these areas.

Agriculture Secretary Senen Bacani said the dry spell had already affected 17 provinces and damaged crops worth P637 million.

The declaration, Bacani added, would speed up the release of funds needed for cloud-beeding, water conservation and other anti-drought measures.

Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos said the air force would dispatch a Nomad plane to assist the agriculture department in its cloud-seeding operations.

Bacani assured that despite the damage caused by the drought, the country has enough food to fill its needs.

A report of the government inter-agency water crisis committee said water levels of the Ambuklao and Pantabangan dams in Luzon, and the Magat Dam and Lanao Lake reservoir in Mindanao, are receding below adequate levels.

The low levels, officials said, might trigger water and power shortages in Metro Manila and other parts of the country.

Agriculture officials said the dry spell might be spreading up north to the Cagayan Valley, Central Luzon, Southern Tagalog and Bicol regions.

Agriculture Undersecretary Apolonio Bautista said that, aside from the P10 million calamity fund, money for intensified cloudseeding would be pooled by the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System [MWSS], Local Water Utilities Administration, National Irrigation Authority and National Power Corp.

Pantabangan Dam in Nueva Ecija, with 208.76 meters of water, is 2.26 meters below its adequate level, while Ambuklao Dam in Bokod, Benguet, with 747.98 meters, is less 2.02 meters.

Magat Dam in Oriental Mindoro, with 188.4 meters, is less 0.42 meters, while the Lake Lanao water reservoir, with 699.86 meters, is less 1.57 meters.

The MWSS has launched a campaign against illegal water connections believed to have been robbing it daily of large volumes of water in Metro Manila.

MWSS officials also said the La Mesa Dam was not closed, as earlier reported. With 69.87 meters of water, or 1.13 meters below its adequate level, the dam continues to provide 20 to 30 million liters daily from the Angat and Ipo dams.

To conserve water, the MWSS stepped up its drive against illegal connections in the metropolis, which it said was robbing it of big volumes of water daily.

An MWSS official said the campaign had resulted in the disconnection of an illegally tapped pipeline in Quezon City which had been distributing water to at least 600 families in a barangay for the past eight months.

MWSS Administrator Luis Sison had given instructions to strictly implement this water conservation plan.

Thailand

Minister Urges End to Terrorist Threat Reports

BK0602135191 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Interview with Interior Minister Police General Praman Adireksan by unidentified correspondent in Bangkok on 6 February—recorded]

[Text] [Correspondent] Can you comment on the report that Iraq has sent some 20 terrorists to Thailand?

[Praman] I would like all of you to help the country by not reporting on this issue because it frightens people. Regardless of the motive for reports on terrorist threats, repeated reports do not benefit anyone. It would be good to refrain from reporting on this matter entirely. As all of you already know, the government has already taken precautionary security measures. Therefore, I appeal to you to refrain from reporting on this matter.

House Committee Urges Action on Terrorism Warning

BK0702003791 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 7 Feb 91 p 3

[Text] The House Committee on Foreign Affairs yesterday asked the Foreign Ministry to take action on the US warning of a terrorism threat in Thailand linked to the Gulf war.

The committee, meeting on the Gulf war yesterday, said the US warning is harming the Thai economy.

Committee deputy spokesman Sutham Saengprathum said Foreign Minister Athit Urairat and Public Health Minister Piyanat Watcharaphon, who attended the session, urged the Government to clearly express its support for UN resolutions calling on Iraq to withdraw unconditionally from Kuwait.

According to Mr Sutham, the committee was worried by the US warning that Thailand has become a centre for terrorism.

"The committee urged the Foreign Ministry to ask the US to be more careful because such reports adversely affect the Thai economy and image," he said.

Dr Athit told the committee that ministry spokesman Sakthip Krairoek would meet with the director of the US Information Service of the terrorism warning, and would ask that Washington stop issuing reports that make Thailand look bad.

However, he admitted that while terrorist attacks are aimed at countries that are Iraq's foes in the war, the attacks can take place anywhere.

The despatch of Thai medical teams to Saudi Arabia served the dual purpose of helping Thai workers in the Middle East while furthering Thai-Saudi medical cooperation, Minister Piyanat told the committee.

The teams, originally scheduled to stay for two weeks, have extended their stay to one month.

The committee would discuss the war again next week, and would invite Interior Ministry and National Security Council officials to report on the evacuation of Thai workers and on the war itself, Mr Sutham said.

Spokesman, U.S. Official Meet on Terrorism

BK0702090991 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] Following a warning issued by the United States Information Service, or USIS, to Americans about possible terrorist attacks in Thailand, there have been criticisms that the warning has affected the tourism business. In this regard, Foreign Ministry Spokesman Sakthip Krairoek told reporters that he met the USIS director yesterday to inform him about the dissatisfaction over the USIS warning because of its adverse impact on tourism. The USIS director explained that the issuance of the warning was a U.S. Department of State affair, and that it was issued to all countries and not just to Thailand so that Americans would be careful of possible terrorist attacks. Some time ago, an U.S. aircraft was blown up. A terrorism threat was made before that incident, but the U.S. Government did not issue a warning. Those affected by the incident have since sued the U.S. Department of State. Therefore, the government now has to inform Americans when there are news about terrorism.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman said his ministry had taken several actions following the USIS warning. The permanent secretary for the Foreign Ministry met with the U.S. ambassador to express dissatisfaction over the warning while the Thai ambassador to Washington discussed the issue with the U.S. Department of State. The U.S. Department of State have affirmed that the United States had issued the warning to all countries.

Regarding the warning issued by the U.S. Consulate in Chiang Mai advising Americans to be careful when traveling in the north, the spokesman said the United States has apologized for the mistake by including a government warning in the consulate's warning. It is impossible to prevent the issuance of such warning because it is issued to all countries without discrimination.

Members of 'Terrorist' Groups Become Volunteers

BK0602141491 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Another 113 members of several terrorist groups have reformed themselves to become Thai national development volunteers. Yesterday in Pattani Province, Lieutenant General Yutthana Yaemphan, commander of the 4th Army Region, and Wirot Ratcharak, director of the Southern Border Provinces Administrative Center, jointly presided over the ceremony welcoming the above volunteers who were former members of various terrorist groups in the south—the BRN [Barisan Revolusi Nasional], PULO [Pattani United Liberation Organization], and BNPP [Barison Nasional Pembebasan Pattani]. The reform is the result of cooperation between local people and various government agencies to carry out the national security policy in conducting continued and concentrated political and military operations against the terrorist groups.

Evacuation Committee Reports Worker Taken by Iraq

BK0702145991 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] The spokesman of the committee in charge of evacuation of Thai workers from the Middle East reported that a Thai worker had been arrested by Iraqi soldiers several days ago and there has been no report on his fate.

Deputy Prime Minister General Athit Kamlang-ek, in his capacity as chairman of the committee, reported to the committee that the arrested worker was Khammun Wongthai, about 30 years old and a native of Loei Province. He was working for the Iraqi company (OK Nabor) and was taken by Iraqi forces some days ago. He was charged with driving a car which collided with an Iraqi military truck. He is under detention. The Thai Government has been trying to contact the Iraqi Embassy in order to ask for his return, but has still received no word from the embassy.

Analyst Urges Extension of U.S. Airline Permits

BK0602034191 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 6 Feb 91 p 17

[By Imtiaz Muqbil]

[Text] One of Thailand's foremost aviation analysts has called for a six-month extension of US airlines' temporary operating permits to gain time for an amicable resolution of the simmering controversy over the US-Thai aviation pact.

The call by International Aviation Services managing director Niels Lumholdt came just prior to the meeting planned for today to discuss the issue. Due to attend the meeting are representatives of top tour operators and hotels, the Tourism Authority of Thailand and the Transport and Communications Ministry.

The meeting has been organised to better explain the Thai position on the talks and to answer queries from the private sector related to fears of a possible impact on tourism flows to Thailand in case the issue is not resolved successfully.

Mr Lumholdt, who was with Thai Airways International [Thai] for nearly three decades before resigning in late 1989 to set up his own consultancy, said he felt the onus of proof should be on the US airlines (Delta, Northwest and United) to back up their claims that they contribute significantly to tourism from the US to Thailand.

He agreed the Thai tourism industry should talk to the US officials and airlines responsible to gain this evidence of third- /fourth-freedom traffic (betweeen the US and Thailand).

"To my knowledge, they (the US airlines) have talked only vaguely about tourism being affected," he said. "Anybody can say that."

Mr Lumholdt, who was involved personally in aviation talks with the US during his days with THAI, said he understood that the two- year-old issue had become embroiled in various other political interests, but felt that this could be overcome through intervention by Transport and Communications Minister Samak Suntharawet.

"Mr Samak was not a party to the negotiations and the positions that were taken before. His role now could be to smooth things out, to apply a balm of sorts to cool the tempers," Mr Lumholdt noted. As far as the issues themselves are concerned, he said: "Fundamentally, the Thai position is correct and a new type of agreement based on predetermination of capacity is the answer."

He said the Thai position to scale back the US airlines to 21 passenger and seven cargo flights per week—from 38 at present—would not affect tourism to Thailand and would be accepted by the US airlines if the Thai side stuck to its guns.

"I don't really believe the US will terminate its flights altogether. I don't think they will pull out provided they get to carry fifth-freedom traffic from Northeast Asia to Thailand on those 28 weekly flights."

If the US airlines want to fly more frequencies, he said they could be allowed to do so provided they did not gain any rights to fly passengers between Northeast Asian points and Thailand.

He also cited the Hong Kong situation where US airlines are allowed to fly only 21 flights per week. "Hong Kong has done extremely well with that framework," he said.

Mr Lumholdt said few people realised how open-ended the Thai-US aviation agreement was and how the US wanted to maintain it at any cost because of its value.

He said the geographical location of Thailand—exactly halfway round the world from the US—meant any number of US carriers could fly through any middle points they wanted, be it Europe, Northeast Asia or even the South Pacific.

This meant the direct point-to-point traffic between Thailand and the US would always be limited and made it "logical for Thailand (more than any other country between here and the US) to pursue a policy of predetermination of capacity."

This, he said, was in line with the unspoken international aviation guidelines, under which the airlines of two countries are entitled to freely carry traffic between their two countries while being careful to allow rights when third countries are involved because other governments and airlines come into the picture.

"The issue is to establish a certain structure of facts on how traffic flows, wich is what it is all about, not an aviation system. This is not possible between now and the end of March (when the oeprating permits expire).

If the temporary operating permits can be extended, it will give some time to sort the matter out," Mr Lumholdt said, indicating that some final deadlines should be set so the US airlines do not continue flying to Thailand under temporary extensions.

PRC Consultative Conference Group Visits

BK0602135791 Bangkok XING XIAN RIBAO in Chinese 6 Feb 91 p 4

[Text] Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan yesterday said that Thailand did not regard the Tiananmen incident in June 1989 as a very grave event because the Chinese Government is capable of handling its own affairs.

Prime Minister Chatchai made the above remark when receiving the delegation of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference [CPPCC] led by Hong Xuezhi, vice chairman of the CPPCC National Committee.

Hong Xuezhi expressed gratitude over the Thai Government's understanding of the incident and its support to the Chinese Government. Hong Xuezhi said that the social and political situation in China has been stable since the 4 June incident. The central authorities are strong, the country's economy is gradually recovering, and inflation is well under control.

General Chatchai said that he was very pleased to see the improvement of China's political and economic situation.

The prime minister also briefed the Chinese delegation on Thailand's recent diplomatic activities. The two sides hoped that the Cambodian issue could be settled in a comprehensive and just manner.

He said: "I am the prime minister and also chairman of the Thai- Chinese Friendship Association. So, I am very interested in Chinese affairs. I hope that relations between the two countries will be further strengthened."

Hong Xuezhi and his delegation also paid a courtesy call on Foreign Minister Athit Urairat. The Chinese delegation invited Athit to visit China and Athit accepted the invitation.

During the meeting, Athit hoped that Thailand and China would expand the university student exchange program to strengthen cultural and sports relations. At present, this program is only limited to Chulalongkon University and Beijing University. In addition, Athit reaffirmed Thailand's wish that China would join development projects along the Mekong River and would become a member of the [Mekong River] Development Committee.

Foreign Minister Urges PRC To Join Mekong Group

BK0702002991 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 7 Feb 91 p 2

[Text] Foreign Minister Athit Urairat has urged China to actively participate in the Mekong River development project.

Dr Athit made the call during talks with visiting Deputy Chairman Chai Zemin of the Chinese People's Assembly, according to Foreign Ministry Spokesman Sakthip Krairoek.

The Foreign Minister was quoted as saying that he would like China to join the Interim Mekong Committee. The Mekong River starts in China, and runs through Laos, Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam.

China is keen on the project and has already discussed the issue with Laos recently.

However, China's participation is obstructed by the Cambodian conflict, Mr Chai reportedly told Dr Athit.

The Cambodian problem has stalled many of the Committee's projects, and has made Thailand, Laos and Vietnam the only three active participants in the Committee.

Last year Vietnam asked China to participate in the Committee. China currently holds observer status to the Committee.

Government Approves Distribution of RENMIN RIBAO

BK0702125391 Bangkok ZHONG HUA RIBAO in Chinese 7 Feb 91 p 4

[Text] According to authorities concerned, the Thai Government on 6 February approved the import of the overseas edition of China's RENMIN RIBAO for sale in Thailand.

The source said that Police Department Director General Sawat Amonwiwat, in his capacity as chairman of the Magazines and Newspapers Office, approved the import of the overseas edition of RENMIN RIBAO for distribution in Thailand. But, it has to pay tax in accordance with customs regulations.

Justice Minister Uthai Phimchaichon said that the approval for distribution of the overseas edition of RENMIN RIBAO is timely because it will strengthen the mutual understanding between the two countries and the friendly Thai-Chinese relationship.

RENMIN RIBAO is the official newspaper of the CPC Central Committee. Its overseas edition is published in Beijing and printed in Hong Kong for overseas distribution.

The Thai Government's approval of the distribution of the overseas edition of RENMIN RIBAO was welcomed by various circles of Thai-Chinese organizations. The Foundation of the Thai-Chinese Newspaper Journalists

Welfare Fund will today send a congratulatory message to the RENMIN RIBAO office in Beijing.

Deputy Premier Meets PRC's Liaoning Delegation

BK0202103291 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 2 Feb 91

[Text] The deputy governor of China's Liaoning Province is leading a seven-member party on a week-long visit to discuss agricultural and industrial development in Thailand. Mr. Xiao's visit is also intended to enhance economic cooperation between the two countries. Mr. Xiao discussed the cooperation with Deputy Prime Minister Bun-ua Prasoetsuwan during a meeting on Wednesday. Deputy Government Spokesman Mr. Soemsak Karun quoted Mr. Xiao as saying that Thai and Chinese agricultural cooperation has been long established. China has sent engineers to help Thai officials on the construction of rubber dams. The country is also one of the regular buyers of Thai rice.

Mr. Bun-ua at the same time expressed Thailand's willingness to step up technical cooperation in the field of agriculture with China, especially in the development of new farm crops. Mr. Bun-ua also said he would consider visiting Liaoning Province very soon. The Chinese delegation will return home on 3 February.

Chatchai To Contact Khmer Factions for Talks

BK0702145591 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1200 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] M.R. Pridiyathon Thewakun, Prime Minister's Office spokesman, told reporters at Government House today that Paris International Conference on Cambodia representatives had asked Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan to contact the Khmer factions to meet on the Cambodian problem. There is some progress now as Prince Ranariddh, representative of a Khmer faction, has informed that he will meet the prime minister at Dusit Thani Hotel at 1200 on Monday 11 February to discuss the invitations for other Khmer factions to join the SNC [Supreme National Council] talks.

The spokesman said the premier will meet the representatives of the four Khmer factions as soon as possible to ask them to attend the SNC talks to discuss details such as disarmament, the SNC chairmanship, and the return of military power to the people. This is to be done before signing the accord, the major points of which have been agreed upon by the four factions.

The spokesman also pointed out that the premier's aim in meeting the Khmer faction representatives is to get them to attend the SNC talks, and that it is not the prime minister or Thailand which will host the talks. Rather, it is the affair of the four Khmer factions to decide upon the venue and date of the upcoming SNC talks.

Further on Chatchai's Role

BK0702021691 Bangkok THE NATION in English 7 Feb 91 pp 1, 5

[By Atthawibun Sisuworananon]

[Text] Rival Cambodian leaders will be asked by Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan to set up a "unified" working group to discuss the repatriation of about 300,000 war-displaced Cambodians from Thailand when he meets them in Bangkok next week, sources close to the premier added.

The working group would be under the National Supreme Council, (SNC) a top policy making body grouping together the four rival Cambodian factions as a symbol of national reconciliation during the transitional, period, pending a general election. The SNC has been rendered inoperative because of bickering over who should chair the body.

The plan was acknowledged earlier this week by UN Deputy Secretary General Rafiuddin Ahmad assigned by UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar as mediator in the Cambodian peace settlement, the sources told THE NATION.

Rafiuddin accompanied Indonesia's Foreign Minister Ali Alatas and French Deputy Foreign Minister Edwige Avice, the two co-chairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia (PICC), in their discussion with Chatchai at Government House on Monday,on ways to break the Cambodian impasse.

The sources said Rafiuddin agreed to convey Chatchai's idea of a Cambodian working group to the UN secretary general. The working group, according to the sources, would be an "additional to the sources, would be an "additional venue" under the framework of the UN peace plan for Cambodia.

The sources declined to elaborate on how the proposed working group would fit into the current peace efforts under the framework of the PICC which had already formed a subcommittee chaired by Japan and Laos on the reconstruction and rehabilitation of Cambodia.

The working group should have the duty of creating "just and reasonable" conditions for the resettlement of the displaced Cambodians supposed to be sent to areas controlled by both the government and the opposing coalition, said the sources. They added that the Cambodian mechanism would forge an agreement between both sides on issues related to the repatriation and rehabilitation of the Cambodians.

Rafiuddin noted that Thailand as the country directly concerned with the problem should be granted the right to define the practical terms in the UN programme which is now the responsibbility of the PICC subcommittee, the sources said.

Thailand has long voiced its concern over the prospects of rehabilitation progrmames for displaced Cambodians who have taken refuge on Thai soil since Vietnamese troops invaded Cambodia in late 1978.

The proposed mechanism would support and not replace the PICC subcommittee on reconstruction and rehabilitation, said the sources.

The sources also said Premier Toshiki Kaifu of Japan had given his blessing to the Thai proposal with Premier Chatchai in Tokyo in November during the enthronement ceremony of Emperor Akihito.

Japan is supposed to be a major financial donor for the reconstruction of Cambodia under the UN peace plan.

Thailand agreed that the SNC's working group would have no other function than preparing the rehabilitation programme, said the sources. They added that the working group's duties would not include political aspects of the settlement, such as disarmament of the Cambodian armed forces or an international-supervised elections after a ceasefire.

However, Thailand would ask the SNC working group to act as a representative of Cambodia in regulating Thai-Cambodian contacts and relations which are now evolving into various forms of cooperation, said the sources.

Thailand has supported and established diplomatic relations with the tripartite coalition government. Nevertheless, after the peace process to settle the problem advanced to a crucial point, particularly after the formation if tge SNC in September last year, Thailand established friendly contacts with the government in Phnom Penh. The Thai private sector has also had also conducted business deals with both sides in the Cambodian conflict.

Diplomatic Role in Cambodian Talks Viewed

BK0702005191 Bangkok THE NATION in English 7 Feb 91 p 10

[By Atthawibun Sisuworanan]

[Text] Thai diplomats are likely to have a few busy weeks ahead as they probe Cambodian leaders' minds if they are willing to take part in another round of peace talks with the co-chairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia (PICC) in Jakarta. While resolving the 12-year conflict is still a remote possibility, Thailand's latest move might help to bring it closer to reality.

Because of Thailand's cordial ties with all the four warring factions in Cambodia, Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan was asked by the two co-chairmen of the PICC—Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas and French Deputy Foreign Minister Edwige Avice—and United Nations special envoy Rafiuddin Ahmad to determine the prospects for the next PICC talks in Jakarta.

The proposed talks, which would involve Alatas, Avice and Cambodian leaders, is to pave the way for the resumption of the PICC coordinating committee, a body preparing the second PICC in Paris.

Chatchai announced that he would meet the Cambodian leaders one at a time to learn from them the differences that impede a comprehensive political settlement.

A senior Thai official said the move, marking yet another Thai attempt to keep the peace process moving, may require some arrangements which would include inviting a delegation from Phnom Penh to Bangkok and sending Thai officials to Phnom Penh for the first time in 12 years. The latter move, which might cause an diplomatic uproar since Thailand has not officially recognized the Phnom Penh regime, is still possible at the request of the PICC and the UN delegation.

In the meantime diplomatic manoeuvres have been under way to reconvene the Cambodian Supreme National Council in Bangkok.

The first SNC meeting was held in Bangkok in the third week of September last year after its establishment a week earlier in Jakarta. The council, consisting of six representatives of the Phnom Penh regime and six representatives of the tripartite resistance coalition, disagreed on the role of resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk who wanted to chair the council. Consequently the meeting was adjourned and the council sank into limbo.

An informed source said the planned SNC meeting in Bangkok would be synchronized with Foreign Minister Athit Urairat's visits to Vietnam, Laos and China tentatively scheduled for March. Apart from strengthening bilateral ties between Thailand and the three countries, Athit is expected to bring up Cambodia in his discussions with leaders in Hanoi, Vientiane and Beijing.

However, while Thailand is trying to muster support from all concerned parties, it is still doubtful whether Thailand will be able to persuade the Cambodian leaders to help open the peace talks in Jakarta.

A lukewarm response from Hanoi to the PICC's move last week apparently upset both Alatas and Avice. After their disappointing visit to Hanoi, the two came to Bangkok earlier this week.

Thailand's initiative in this respect seems to be the last resort for them to continue the PICC's "regional approach". This is the diplomatic terminology describing the current attempt by Indonesia and France to secure pledges from Vietnam and Thailand to support a comprehensive peace plan for Cambodia as drafted by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council. Vietnam and Thailand are supposed to apply pressure on the Cambodian factions to accept the peace plan.

But Phnom Penh's refusal to accept the UN plan as it is. [sentence as published] It has insisted on a precondition that the plan must include measures to guarantee that the Pol Potist Khmer Rouge cannot return to power. Phnom Penh also refuses to yield all of its administrative power to the UN interim authority, namely the UN Transitional Authority (Untac), other than five key ministries agreed upon earlier.

The defence, interior, foreign affairs, finance, and information ministries are considered necessary to be under the control of the Untac to create a "neutral" atmosphere for a free and fair eleciton.

Phnom Penh wants a bigger role for the SNC, which symbolically represents the Cambodian sovereignty.

In short what Phnom Penh is demanding is a part in revising the UN plan, a demand which is against the approach of Indonesia and France.

The resistance coalition, on the other hand, is now backing the PICC's approach. As a force controlling a relatively small area and population inside Cambodia, the resistance sees that the more the PICC gets out of Phnom Penh, the more it will indirectly benefit.

There have been reports of fighting between Phnom Penh's troops and resistance guerrillas inside Cambodia this week after an unusual lull since the start of the current dry season late last year. More fighting is expected this month even though peace efforts gather momentum.

Premier Chatchai will once again become an active player in the peace process when he meets the Cambodian leaders next week. But the premier this time seems to be more practical in setting his goal. This time he merely hopes to reactivate the SNC rather bring about a peace settlement itself.

It is quite possible that the Cambodian leaders will accept Prince Sihanouk as chairman of the SNC when they meet in Bangkok. But what Phnom Penh will ask in return for this concession remains to be seen.

More on Thailand's Role

BK0702094191 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1500 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Cambodian Diary program: "Thailand and the Role of Contributor to Cambodian Peace"]

[Text] After the Gulf war, the Cambodian issue seemed to be (?shunned). But now the situation is rolling again. On Monday [4 February], Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas and French Deputy Foreign Minister Edwige Avice, and the United Nations Special Envoy Rafiuddin Ahmad met with Thailand's Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan to brief the Thai premier of what they got from their trip to Vietnam. Accordingly, the cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia, or PICC, France and Indonesia, have asked for Thai support to help prepare the leaders of the warring Cambodian factions for another round of peace talks in Jakarta.

The reason behind this request is that the Cambodian factions are still divided by differences on several issues, notably the pace of disarmament and containment of Cambodian Armed Forces, and the question on chairmanship of the Supreme National Council which would represent Cambodian sovereignty in the interim period. The Hun Sen regime reiterated the objection to the United Nations' peace plan which, accordingly, gives power to the United Nations' transitional authority to assume governing powers over Cambodia. The regime also rejected the proposal to disarm its troops, citing that, by doing so, it would leave Cambodia open to the attacks from the Khmer Rouge. The Phnom Penh leaders have consistently said they are being asked to surrender too much in the interim. However, contrast to the regime's statement, the United Nations' plan, supported by the United States, the Soviet Union, China, France and Great Britain, aims to bring the Khmer Rouge out of the jungles, and offered it with the elections supervised by a huge UN peace-keeping and administrative contingent. With this differences, the brilliant idea comes out to persuade Thailand to play a bigger role as a contributor to the peace process.

Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said that the Jakarta meeting between the chairmen of the Paris conference and the Cambodian leaders could pave the way for possible resumption of the international conference. The Paris conference was adjourned in August 1989 with limited progress being made towards an overall peace settlement for the war-torn country. Mr. Ali Alatas therefore said that, since Thailand has good relations with all the Cambodian leaders and continuing open lines to all the factions, Thailand's support and contribution in this respect are highly appreciated by the two cochairmen. In response, Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan said that Thailand was very glad to help speed up and pace out the process. It was reported that General Chatchai had instructed the Foreign Ministry and his advisers to probe the attitude of the Cambodian leaders about the meeting in Jakarta which, whether and when the meeting would take place, depended on the readiness of the Cambodian leaders to compromise with each other.

Accordingly, Prime Minister Chatchai said yesterday he would begin a series of separate meetings with the four Cambodian factions next week to convince them to bridge their differences so that further peace efforts could be pursued when the Supreme National Council, or SNC, of Cambodia reconvenes to discuss a UN peace plan. Certainly, there is expectation that this time the Cambodian peace process would start rolling again. Once again Thailand seems to be one of the most important contributor who would do delicate work in persuading all Khmer factions to agree on the new round of peace talks. The talks needs much diplomatic skill and delicacy, but no one could refuse that Thailand is the most suitable one to the role.

Vietnam

Spokesman on Cambodia, USSR, Gulf Crisis

BK0702112291 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] A spokesman for the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry said that the stand of Vietnam is to urge all sides to respect the principle that only the Cambodians have the right to solve their internal affairs.

Speaking at the regular press conference in Hanoi on Thursday, the spokesman once again affirmed that the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia was an adequate proof of Vietnam's goodwill in solving the Cambodian issue by a political solution. Existing issues: Many belong to the internal aspects of Cambodia; Vietnam cannot interfere in the internal affairs of Cambodia.

On the economic cooperation between Vietnam and the Soviet Union this year, the spokesman said: The recent signing of an agreement on bilateral cooperation has affirmed the great significance of this cooperation. Vietnam considers this cooperation with the Soviet Union plays an important role in Vietnam's economy.

On the Gulf crisis, the spokesman expressed Vietnam's deep concern over the war escalation in the Gulf and the threat to use weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons. Therefore, as soon as the war broke out, the Vietnamese Government and people called for a settlement of this conflict by peaceful negotiation because negotiations are never too late.

Any political solution could be considered comprehensive and equitable only when taking into account timely political and military realities in Cambodia.

Do Muoi Visits USSR Joint Oil Enterprise

BK0602122391 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 4 Feb 91

[Text] On 27 January, Council of Ministers Chairman Do Muoi paid a working visit to the Vietnam-Soviet Petroleum Joint Enterprise and the Vung Tau-Con Dao Special Sector. At the Vietnam-Soviet Petroleum Joint Enterprise, the comrade leaders of the Vietnam Mineral Oil and Gas General Corporation and the Vietnam-Soviet Petroleum Joint Enterprise guided Chairman Do Muoi on a tour to the newly completed oil and gas general service center.

The comrade chairman toured the living quarters of Soviet and Vietnamese cadres and employees on work assignment at the joint enterprise. Next, he visited the families of Comrade Mokian, chairman of the joint enterprise trade union, and Comrade Nguyen Anh Duc, a typical machine assembler of the joint enterprise.

After being briefed by the comrade joint enterprise director general on the results of the 1990 and 1986-1990 five-year oil and gas exploration and exploitation programs as well as on this year's projected tasks, on behalf of the party Central Committee and the Council of Ministers, Chairman Do Muoi praised Vietnamese and Soviet cadres and workers for their sustained efforts to overcome difficulties in building material and technical bases and in conducting exploratory drilling.

The joint enterprise has exploited 5 million tons of crude oil, thus fulfilling the task entrusted by Vietnam and the Soviet Union one month ahead of schedule. Thanks to this achievement, the joint enterprise has been awarded the Labor Order, First Class, by the Council of State.

Chairman Do Muoi wished the joint enterprise more achievements in 1991 and hoped that everyone would strive to overfulfill the crude oil exploitation plan norms by at least 10 percent. On this occasion, on behalf of our party, government, and people, the chairman sincerely thanked the Soviet party, government, and people for having helped Vietnam develop its petroleum industry. Together with the Vietnamese side, the Soviet management board has helped oversee the operations of the Vietnam-Soviet Petroleum Joint Enterprise—the first joint venture between the two countries. The project has scored initial achievements and is expected to yield even better results in the days to come.

The chairman also showed deep sympathy for the difficulties facing the renovation process in the Soviet Union and hoped that those difficulties would be overcome and that the socialist construction in the Soviet Union would continue to make steady progress.

Next, the chairman had a working session with the standing bodies of the special sector party committee and people's committee. After being briefed on the local socioeconomic situation by Comrade Le Quang Thanh and Comrade Nguyen Minh Linh, special sector party committee secretary and people's committee chairman respectively, Chairman Do Muoi contributed a number of views to the special sector's socioeconomic development strategy as follows:

As an immediate objective, Vung Tau-Con Dao must engage in production and must concentrate capital on promoting industrial development in support of the various economic sectors. Efforts are needed to overcome the trend to pursue business-oriented activities.

Planning is of important significance. Therefore, it is necessary to work out economic and technical development strategies and to guarantee the consistency of each development plan. Careful calculations must be made to secure solid results. Strict measures must be taken to avoid losses and bankruptcy resulting from careless work performance.

After correct orientations and goals have been defined, one must make a decisive final step, which involves the selection and assignment of cadres who are competent, who know how to do business, who are eager to learn and make progress, and who are trustworthy in terms of moral and political integrity. At the same time, it is necessary to pay due attention to new factors.

It is important for the special sector to draw experience in order to define correct trends and make steady progress.

Economic Agreement Signed With Belorussia

BK0602160091 Hanoi VNA in English 1459 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA February 6—An agreement for cooperation on economic development between Ho Chi Minh City and the Belorussian Soviet Socialist Republic was signed in Ho Chi Minh City during a recent visit to the city by a Soviet delegation.

Signatories were Nguyen Van Huan, vice mayor of the city and N.N. Castikov, vice chairman of the Soviet Council of Ministers [name and title as received]. Under the agreement, the two sides will join in processing rubber, coffee, vegetable oil and traditional medicines and exchange specialists and goods.

Vo Van Kiet Leads Delegation Visit to Malaysia

BK0702071391 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] A Vietnamese Government delegation led by Vice Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Van Kiet arrived in Malaysia on Sunday [3 February] for a friendship visit and a seminar on strategy for development organized by the World Bank on 4-5 February. A source from Kuala Lumpur said that the Vietnamese delegation held talks with economic planners of Malaysia, South Korea, and Indonesia.

Speaking at the opening of the seminar, Malaysian Prime Minister Mohamed Mahathir said that the country would help Vietnam in its development, especially in oil exportation, farming, and forestry. He stressed: Malaysia is prepared to invest in financial services and the restoration of a special project on rubber industry development in Vietnam. A prosperous Vietnam will benefit the whole Southeast Asia, he added.

The Malaysian prime minister expressed his belief that other countries in the region will be ready to cooperate with and help Vietnam by all means in its present development.

Malaysian Consulate Opens in Ho Chi Minh City

BK0602160891 Hanoi VNA in English 1501 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA February 6—The Malaysian Consulate was recently opened in Ho Chi Minh City. This is the first country in the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) to open a diplomatic office in the city.

In a recent meeting with Pham Chanh Truc, vice mayor of the city, the Malaysian Consul, Mr. A.L. Bin Awang [name as received] said he will make all-out efforts to develop the friendly ties between Vietnam and Malaysia.

At present, a number of Malaysians are doing business in the city.

Vo Chi Cong Receives MPR, Iran, Thai, Envoys

BK0702065091 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] Chairman of the Council of State Vo Chi Cong on 5 February received Nyamjaviin Baasanjab, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Mongolian People's Republic [MPR] to our country, who called on the chairman to bid him farwell before concluding his tour of duty in Vietnam.

On the same day, Chairman Vo Chi Cong received Mirza-Taheri, Suraphong Chainam, and Pierre Friederich—respectively the ambassadors extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Kingdom of Thailand, and the Swiss Confederation to our country—who paid courtesy calls on the chairman.

Also present at these receptions was Nguyen Dinh Loc, deputy director of the Office of the National Assembly and Council of State.

Le Quang Dao Receives Outgoing Mongolian Envoy

BK0702062491 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] On 6 February, National Assembly Chairman Le Quang Dao received Nyamjaviin Baasanjab, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Mongolian People's Republic to our country, who visited the chairman to bid him farewell before concluding his tour of duty in Vietnam.

Chairman Le Quang Dao had cordial talk with Ambassador Nyamjaviin Baasanjab. Also present was Nguyen Dinh Loc, deputy director of the Office of the National Assembly and Council of State.

Quoc Chan on People's Confidence in Leaders

BK0702100991 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 16 Jan 91, p 3

[Article by Quoc Chan: "The People's 'Confidence' in Leaders"; from the "Exchange of Views" column]

[Text] Recently many localities have held "consultations" with the masses for evalution and promotion of their personnel.

It is clear that this mode of doing things is more democratic and more "renovative" than having orders handed down from higher echelons. The masses can freely voice their opinions about their leaders through secret balloting and all the feedback is generally objective and accurate. Yet, there have been consultations that bring about biased and unfaithful feedback. From what we know, there have been at least four cases where a leader who has allegedly won the confidence of many people is the most incompetent, unqualified, and ill-mannered person and has, worse still, been regarded as a corrupt official with a record of irregularities in financial management.

The first case is reported by various organs and units where cadres have consistently succeeded one another in committing various prevalent shortcomings such as corruption and nepotism, thereby leading the masses to a preconceived idea that replacing an old cadre is no longer necessary because the newcomer would follow in the footsteps of his predecessor. Therefore, when it comes to voting for a leader, the masses would "just act indifferently". The reason for this absurdity is that a segment of the masses holds the views that sooner or latter a newly-appointed leader would repeat the cycle of irregularities of his predecessor. If this is so, the assets of the state and the collective would continue to vanish and the lives of the people would become more difficult. Therefore, retaining the old leader, though not good, continues to be the best solution available.

The second case involves some managerial cadres of certain public organs and enterprises who, instead of concerning themselves with the duties assigned to them by the state and the collective, have used the funds allocated by higher echelons to engage in lucrative dealings. They have organized various "service groups" to deal in smuggled, tax-evading goods. Even worse, some of them have sold the state's fixed assets such as houses, land, and machinery to get money to distribute among themselves or deposit in a savings bank for interest. Even if they are told by their higher echelons that their methods are no longer fit, they would continue to receive an overwhelming "confidence" vote if the masses are consulted. Then where does the absurdity of this phenomena lie? It is obvious that the masses in these localities have adopted a departmentalistic and pragmatic attitude.

They have learned of the actual situation in other units where cadres and workers have had to accept low pay or face dismissal. Whereas, thanks to the negative attitude of their leader, they can continue to receive regular payments from their organs or enterprises and can even earn some extra money (although this has been achieved through illicit dealings). That is why these people have cast their confidence votes for their leader. This phenomenon has emerged at a time when we are implementing Resolution 240 of the Council of Ministers on fighting corruption. It has been speculated that several major corruption cases involving certain unit leaders have been brought to public attention by the radio and the press. But when asked to express their views in a referendum, held by officials coming from higher echelons, to probe their reactions, people in these units acted contrary to expectations, giving their leaders an overwhelming majority vote of confidence.

The third case is some leading cadres accused of negligence in their daily leadership activities and relaxing their control over their personnel. But when asked to express their opinions in a referendum held by officials coming from higher echelons, the majority of the people who work under these cadres have again given them a vote of confidence. Low pay is the main reason for the emergence of this phenomenon. If these people continue to "cling firmly" onto their organs or enterprises, they would not be able to make their ends meet. Therefore, they feel happy with the way their leaders have relaxed their control efforts and have let them go moonlighting to earn some extra money, thus making their lives much easier. Such leaders are generally regarded by these people as "sentimental leaders" and they will continue to enjoy these people's "confidence."

The fourth—relatively prevalent—case is a number of cadres with genuine professional skills and good character who have failed to win the people's confidence in a referendum. Why? This is because in the current situation, a fairly large section of people have developed an inherent habit for the mode of procedural, easy-going, and irresponsible work of the old, bureaucratic mechanism (this habit is also ascribed to the old mechanism, the poor knowledge of leaders, the state of excessively low pay, indiscriminate appointments of personnel, and a failure to verify job descriptions). The majority of cadres and workers do not want to see a new leader appointed for fear that if he is truly competent and possesses good professional skills and a high sense of responsibility, he would easily uncover their weaknesses and their irresponsible working habit and would therefore intensify his control over personnel and demand a scrupulous working attitude from all of them. Meanwhile, wages have been limited by current stipulations. Although having inwardly admired the good qualities of such a leading cadre, these people do not want to recommend him for a leadership position.

Consequently, the results of the method of soliciting public opinions to evaluate or promote a cadre, though good in nature, is not always accurate and faithful as they are sometimes misleading, for this method depends chiefly on certain conditions—such as the organizational structure of the management mechanism and the driving force of personnel and their sense of responsibility—and on the varying specific circumstances of each unit. We should take these problems into account whenever there is a need to solicit public views of "confidence" to evaluate and promote a cadre for a leading position.

Government Issues Directive on Water Works

BK3101100791 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] The Council of Ministers has just issued a directive on strengthening the work of management, exploitation, and protection of the water works systems which serve in production. Initially, this entailed requesting the Ministry of Water Conservancy, related sectors, and the provincial people's committee to perform some urgent tasks. Among these tasks were organizing the inspection of every water works system including reservoirs, evaluating the service capacity, having plans to quickly repair the main projects, and preventing problems from arising during operations. Other tasks were dredging canals and waterways to ensure free water flow, maintaining and enhancing the project capacity to meet production demand, and in the immediate future, serving the production plan of the 1990-1991 winter-spring crop.

1990 State Investment in Sedentary Farming

BK0702091891 Hanoi VNA in English 0729 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb. 7—Last year the state invested 6,200 million dong in the movement for sedentary farming and settlement.

The fund was used to strengthen the material and technical bases of the country's 310 new settlement areas inhabited by 62,190 families with more than 374,500 members, and to build 68 more areas for nearly 7,000 families, including 44,000 people.

Also last year, the new settlers planted 1,180 hectares of food crops, and 490 hectares of industrial plants. They built 72 more irrigation works capable of watering 981 hectares, 179 kilometres of roads, and eight bridges. Leading the movement for sedentary farming were the provinces of Nghe Tinh and Gia Lai-Congtum. This year, the state plans to invest 10 billion dong in this movement.

Marine Products 'Overfulfilled' Annual Plan

BK0402155091 Hanoi VNA in English 1450 GMT 4 Feb 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA February 4—The Vietnam marine products service in 1990 got 1,019,000 [metric] tons of marine products including 40,800 tons of processed products for export, up by 20 percent over 1989. Its exports were valued at 205 million U.S. dollars including 31,300 tons of shrimps. This is the tenth successive year the service has overfulfilled its yearly plan.

The industry in 1990 mobilized 352 billion dong at home and 6,550,000 U.S. dollars from foreign sources. Most of the capital was invested in expanding the shrimp rearing area by 20,000 hectares. It built 1,500 more trawlers, bringing its fishing fleet to 38,500, built 84 refrigerating factories with a total capacity of 468 tons a day and purchased seven more refrigerating ships totalling 2,400 tons to transport export marine products to Southeast Asian countries.

The service has signed with the Italian Government three contracts on long term low-interest loans totalling 6.8 U.S. million dollars. It also received 3.4 million U.S. dollars as development aid from UNDP [United Nations Development Program], UNIDO [United Nations Industrial Development Organization], and FAO [Food and Agriculture Organization].

In 1991 the service is aiming at a target of 1,050,000 tons of marine products including 55,000 tons of processed products for export to the value of about 230 million U.S. dollars.

Statistics on Oil, Light Industrial Production

BK0402040691 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 2 Feb 91

[Text] By the end of January 1991, the Vietnam Oil and Gas General Corporation had extracted more than 260,000 tonnes of crude oil. The corporation is extracting oil from 46 oil wells. The corporation pays much attention to improving the Vietnamese cadres and workers' skills so as to handle well the work on their rigs.

Last year, exports from the light industry of Vietnam were valued at over 300 million ruble dollar [currency as heard]. This shows an increase of six percent in comparison with the previous year. Also last year, the branch obtained the high output value for the period from 1986-90.

During the year efforts were made to upgrade technology and search for new markets in face of the changed markets in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. As a result, better quality has been obtained for a number of manufactured goods, such as shoes, head gear, garments, and knitwear.

Methodology Workshop Closes in Ho Chi Minh City

BK3001162291 Hanoi VNA in English 1448 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA January 30—A methodology workshop on education and human resources closed here Tuesday after 16 days sitting.

The workshop was within the project COG/VIE/83/89/022/A/01/13 signed between the Vietnamese Government and the United Nations Development Program on Sept. 29, 1990.

The project is aimed to help the government design a long-term strategy for the development of human resources, strengthen the country's institutional capacity for appraising the education system in terms of both internal and external efficiency, formulating long-term strategies adapted to changing socio-economic requirements and financial constraints, and for elaborating by each administrative unit better tools to monitor the delivery of educational services.

The project will be completed in 18 months from the day it was signed.

The workshop was attended by representatives of the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank, the Asian Devolopment Bank, and other international, national, non-governmental organisations.

Earlier, a [word indistinct] meeting was convened with the participation of representatives from various international, governmental, and non-governmental organizations, and foreign embassies in Hanoi.

Hoang Lien Son Party Organization Reviews Work

BK0702103591 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 6 Feb 91

[Text] The Executive Committee of the Hoang Lien Son provincial party organization recently held its 18th conference to evaluate work related to leadership of the province in 1990 and to discuss orientations and measures for socioeconomic development in 1991.

In 1990, leadership over implementation of the three major economic programs produced limited results due to many subjective and objective factors. The gross output of grain only reached nearly 240,000 metric tonnes. This is a decrease, according to the plan. Meanwhile, some 12 million trees have been planted on 6,000 hectares slated for afforestation and 4,200 cubic meters of timber have been exported.

In industrial production, the province invested in the development of enterprises or suitable goods. It also worked for eradication of illiteracy and, as a result, some 6,500 people are now able to read and write.

This year, the Hoang Lien Son provincial party committee is determined to ensure political and social stability, while concentrating efforts on the three major economic programs, especially those involving grain, food, and export goods. The provincial party committee will also change the economic structure to suit the characteristics and advantages of the province in a bid to achieve 280,000 metric tonnes of grain or more.

North Provinces Strive To Increase Grain Output

BK0602093591 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 5 Feb 91

[Text] The people's councils of Hai Hung, Quang Nam-Danang, Thua Thien-Hue, Tay Ninh, Quang Binh, Haiphong, Vinh Phu, Nghe Tinh, Dac Lac, Thuan Hai, and Son La Provinces held a conference recently to discuss measures to implement the 1991 state plan.

After appraising results of the 1990 tasks and discussing measures to overcome difficulties in fulfilling the 1991 state plan, these provinces formulated plans for grain production—the foremost task of the economic development program. They also designed methods to encourage the peasants to engage in intensive and multicrop cultivations, plant new rice varieties for better yield, and apply scientific-technological innovations to cultivation.

The conference urged localities to supply agricultural materials to the peasants in accordance with signed contracts. The 1991 grain production plan norm set by these provinces is a more than 5 percent increase over the 1990 plan.

The conference also discussed measures to improve the socioeconomic situation and to optimally exploit the economic potential of each province.

Australia

PLO Says Decision on Contacts 'Meaningless'

BK0702054891 Hong Kong AFP in English 0530 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] Canberra, Feb 7 (AFP)—The Palestine Liberation Organisation office in Australia Thursday described as "meaningless" a decision by the government to limit contacts with the PLO because of its stand on the Gulf war.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman here had said it was decided that "it would be inappropriate for any contact with the PLO to be initiated by Australian ministers or officials."

The decision was taken by Foreign Minister Gareth Evans on January 21, but was not made public until Wednesday, when Defence Minister Robert Ray referred to it during a speech to the National Press Club here.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman pointed out that the PLO has no diplomatic status in Australia and said the government did not intend to take any action against it or its representative, Ali Kazak.

The "only material change," the spokesman said, was that officials would not initiate contacts with the PLO office. This did not imply that they would refuse to take calls from the PLO, he added.

The decision was made "in view of events in the Middle East and of the PLO's stance on them," the spokesman said, but could not point to any specific statement or action by the PLO that had upset the Australian Government.

The spokesman said he did not know why the decision had not been made public, but added: "There is nothing sinister in it."

Mr. Kazak said the move was "meaningless because they never have taken the initiative to contact me or other PLO officials."

But, he said, "nothing surprises me from this government."

"It has always been biased in favour of Israel's rejectionist policies and negative with regard to the Palestinian question," Mr. Kazak said.

Defending Australia's decision to contribute three warships to the U.S.-led force in the Gulf, Mr. Ray said the PLO's credibility had been "severely damaged" by its support for Iraq.

"The war seems to be affecting everyone very badly," Mr. Kazak responded. "They seem to have lost their common sense."

It was "lunacy" to ask the PLO to support diplomatic moves to solve the Palestinian problem, but to expect it to endorse a military solution to the problem in the Gulf, he said.

The PLO supports a peaceful approach through negotiation to both problems, Mr. Kazak said.

Prime Minister Admits Mistreatment of Aborigines

BK0702100791 Hong Kong AFP in English 0905 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] Canberra, Feb 7 (AFP)—Prime Minister Bob Hawke admitted Thursday White Australia's treatment of its aboriginal minority was "a long and tragic history of demoralisation and despair."

But he told delegates to the World Council of Churches (WCC) the government was working to correct past sins through a program of self-determination and one billion dollars (780 million U.S.) assistance.

He was responding to criticism in a WCC study released earlier this week which described Australia's treatment of its aboriginals as "genocide."

"The impact of racism by Australians on the aboriginal people ..is not just horrific, but genocidal and must be addressed," the study said.

Aborigines were said to be "as powerless as the people in the homelands of South Africa."

Addressing the opening day of the seventh assembly of the WCC here, Mr. Hawke recognised the plight of Australia's earliest inhabitants and said the problem was being tackled.

"There is a long and tragic history of demoralisation and despair - not infrequently exacerbated by government and community responses that were misguided, or plain wrong," Mr. Hawke said.

The prime minister said the government would spend a billion dollars to help aborigines, whom official figures show have the nation's highest infant mortality rate, lowest life expectancy, and poorest standard of living.

"On a per capita basis, this is a larger sum than is spent by any other country on special programs for indigenous people," he said.

The nation's blacks were gaining land rights and control over the policies that affected them, Mr. Hawke said. "This is self- determination - not a theoretical concept or fanciful slogan."

Whites and blacks were seeking reconciliation for the bad deeds done to aborigines, Mr. Hawke said.

The prime minister also told delegates the time was right to decide whether to lift sanctions against South Africa now that Pretoria was dismantling apartheid.

Fiji

Rabuka Promises No Military Action for Miners

BK0702095991 Hong Kong AFP in English 0924 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] Suva, Feb 7 (AFP)—Fiji's military commander Major General Sitiveni Rabuka, who has been under fire for what was seen as interference in an industrial dispute, said Thursday he did not contemplate military action in support of angry gold miners.

His statement followed a meeting with Prime Minister Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara and President Ratu Sir Penaia Ganilau to discuss the grievances of miners at the Australian-owned Emperor Gold Mines on Fiji's west coast.

He appeared to back away from his earlier threat to take action on behalf of the miners, saying he felt they should refer their dispute to the government.

A government statement quoted him as saying that "in his response to the grievances aired to him he was personally in sympathy but explained that it was a matter for the government to consider and not Fiji military forces."

The statement said Maj. Gen. Rabuka agreed to listen to the miners, members of the Fiji Mineworkers Union last weekend, "in the spirit of Fijian tradition and custom."

But it had not been intended to be disrespectful to the law and of trade unionism in Fiji, the statement added.

He was quoted as saying that news reports carried on national state-run radio and newspapers were "sensationalised and therefore misrepresented."

The government had earlier lashed out at trade unions for involving the army commander in their dispute with emperor.

Taniela Veitata, employment and industrial relations minister, said in an earlier statement that such interference would deter investment and cause instability.

"Such action sought to interfere with the rule of law which exists in Fiji in respect of trade unions," he said.

Maj. Gen. Rabuka, leader of Fiji's two coups of 1987, met members of the Fiji Mineworkers Union last weekend and promised to take their grievances to the prime minister and the mine management.

Rabuka Criticized for Role

BK0702094791 Hong Kong AFP in English 0830 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] Suva, Feb 7 (AFP)—Fiji's military strongman Major- General Sitiveni Rabuka came under attack from his own government Thursday for interfering in a dispute between a trade union and an Australian gold mining company.

Industrial Relations Minister Taniela Veitata said such interference had "created national and international concerns" which would deter investment and damage the country's stability.

"Such action sought to interfere with the rule of law which exists in Fiji in respect of trade unions," Mr. Veitata said in a statement.

"It also sought a military solution whereas the military has no responsibility for trade union matters and industrial relations," he said.

Maj. Gen. Rabuka, leader of Fiji's two coups of 1987 and now military commander, met members of the Fiji Mineworkers Union last weekend and promised to take up their grievances.

He assured the estimated 1,200 workers of the Australian-owned Emperor Gold Mines Ltd. in the west coast town of Vatukoula that he would raise the matter with Prime Minister Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara and the mine's management.

Maj. Gen. Rabuka also threatened to personally "take action" if nothing was done to resolve grievances which he likened to those of secessionists on Papua New Guinea's Bougainville Island.

But Mr. Veitata said that instead of seeking "redress from the commander of Fiji military forces" the union should refer disputes to the government.

"Irresponsible trade union actions would only serve to deter investments, confidence and stability in the country to the detriment of our nation," he said.

New Zealand

Envoys Told To Limit Contact With PLO, Iraqis

BK0702109591 Hong Kong AFP in English 0810 GMT 7 Feb 91

[Text] Wellington, Feb 7 (AFP)—New Zealand diplomats have been ordered to "limit their contacts" with representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Iraq, Foreign Minister Don McKinnon said Thursday. And he has declined a PLO request to provide gasmasks and humanitarian assistance to Palestinians in Israeli-occupied territories, he added.

Earlier this week the PLO representative to Australia and New Zealand, Ali Kazak, who is based in Canberra, wrote to New Zealand asking for aid.

In a statement Mr. McKinnon said the letter asked New Zealand to provide assistance through the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) which carries out humanitarian work in the occupied territories. But he said New Zealand had supported UNRWA since 1949 and this year's 200,000 New Zealand dollars (119,200 U.S.) contribution was a 60 per cent increase on last year's donation.

"One of the Palestinians' problems identified in the letter is the effect of Iraqi missile attacks," Mr. McKinnon said. "We would hope that the PLO might use its good offices with Iraq to end the annexation of Kuwait, and the conflict which that has caused."

In another statement he said diplomats had been instructed "to limit their contacts with both PLO and Iraqi representatives".

He said, as an example, diplomats had been told not to invite such representatives to February 6 Waitangi Day (national day) receptions. The order would not affect official contact although, he said, the PLO's representative in Canberra had no diplomatic recognition here.

Iraq Wednesday broke off diplomatic relations with its main adversaries in the Gulf conflict. New Zealand has given only token assistance to the U.S.-led forces fighting to oust Iraq from occupied Kuwait.